THE Continued Cry OF THE OPPRESSED FOR JUSTICE,

Being

A farther Account of the late Unjust and Cruel Proceedings of Unreasonable Men against the Persons and Estates of many of the People call'd Quakers, only for their peaceable Meetings to worship God.

Presented to the Serious Consideration of the *KING* and both Houses of *PARLIAMENT.*

With a Postscript of the Nature Difference and Limits of *Civil and Ecclesiastical Authority*, and the inconsistency of such *Severities* with both.

Recommmended and submitted to the *Perusal* of *Cæsar's* True Friends.

By the Author of *England's Present Interest, &c.*

Seek Judgment, Relieve the Oppressed, Judge the Fatherless, and Defend the Widdow, Isa. 1. 17.

Printed in the Year 1675.

Apollo Pugles

PARLIAMENT

FOR THE KING AND Both Houſes OF PARLIAMENT.

FOraſmuch as the Maintenance of *Juſtice*, and Preſervation of the *Peace* of *Civil Societies* have in all Ages been the great End of Government; and ſince it hath pleaſed Almighty God to caſt our Lot in a Kingdom, whoſe Conſtitution is more then ordinarily careful of the *Liberty* and *Property* of its *free-born Inhabitants*: And becauſe ſeveral Laws have been made upon Occaſion of *Diſſent* in Matters of Religion, to preſs an Uniformity

the Religion now eſtabliſhed, that in the Execution of them have generally interferred with thoſe Laws that give and preſerve *Engliſh Freedoms*, in that Hundreds of us have been Impriſoned, and our Goods frequently ſpoil-ed, to the utter Ruine of many Families, without any *Legal Proceſs* or *Tryal by Peers*; and This not for refuſing Conformity to the *State*, or denying *Cæſar* his *Due*, or being chargeable to *Pariſhes*, or uſeleſs to the *Government* but only becauſe of our conſcientious Diſſent from the preſent Church: And ſince this ſeems to be an Alteration in the ancient *Engliſh* Government, by making an *ECCLESIASTICAL CONFORMITY* the Grand and Neceſſary Qualification in *Engliſh* Men to the Peaceable Enjoyment of their NATURAL and CIVIL INHERITANCES; and foraſmuch as this Courſe tends to a manifeſt *Decay* of *Trade* (the Political Life of this Iſland) *Diſcouragement of Strangers*, *Depopulation* of the *Country*, *Impoveriſhing* of many Thouſand *Uſeful Inhabitants*, as well as that ſuch Severities about Matters of Conſcience are Inconſiſtent

with

with the Doctrine and Example of Ch[illegible]
his Followers in all Ages, and repugn[illegible]
only to the very VVay of true Conviction,
but the Doctrine of antient *Proteſtants*, whoſe
Proteſtation at the Diet at Spira againſt Coer-
tion in Matters of Religion, was the Occaſi-
on of their being called *Proteſtants*. And becauſe
many malicious and covetous Perſons (under
Pretence of doing God, the King & Country
Service) have taken advantage by theſe Laws
to vent their Paſſions, act their Revenge, and
purſue their VVorldly Intereſt, beyond all
Law and Humanity, as wofully appears by
the anexed Particulars, ready to be proved.

VVe therefore intreat; *Firſt*, That it would
pleaſe you to peruſe the anexed Particulars for
your better Information of the Nature of our
Caſe and Allegations.

Secondly, That you would be pleaſed, for
the Removal and Prevention of the like Miſ-
chiefs, to repeal or qualifie thoſe Laws, where-
by the Perſons and Eſtates of many Thouſands
of the peaceable People of this Kingdom are
hourly expoſed to Ruine in this VVorld, for

meer

...Conſcience, about Things relating to ...World, that being aſſured, the ſweat of our Brows, and hard-gotten Bread for our Families ſhall not be made a *Forfeit* for our peaceable Conſciences, we may be better encouraged, for the Time to come, to all virtuous and induſtrious Living under the preſent Government, as hath hitherto been, through God's Grace, our daily Practice.

Leiceſter-ſhire

A few Instances out of many which might be given, of the great OPPRESSIONS *and* CRUELTIES *lately acted upon Innocent Persons and Industrious Families, chiefly in Persuance* (as is pretended) *of the late* Act against Conventicles, *for their meeting in peaceable Manner to worship God: Read, Consider, and Redress.*

Leicester-Shire.

FOR a Meeting at *Long Claxton*, or *Clawson*, four persons were sent to Prison, and so much Goods at divers Times taken from some of the said Meeting, that they had not a Cow left to give their young Children Milk, their very Bed-Clothes, wearing-Clothes and working-Tools escaped not the Violence or Avarice of their Persecutors; the total Sum amounts to above Two Hundred thirty six Pounds, nor did this satisfie our Persecutors for they cruelly dragg'd some Women in the Streets by the Necks, till they were neer stiffled, tearing the Clothes off their Heads and Backs. One Woman that gave Suck was so beaten and bruised on her Breast, that it festered and broke, with which she hath endured many Weeks Misery and Torture; Another Woman of seventy five Years of Age was violently thrown down upon the Ground by one *W. Guy* Constable; the Men were sorely beaten, drawn and dragged out of the Meeting, some by the Heels, some by the Hair of the Head, and some so bruised, that they were not able to follow their Day-Labour; others they whipt on the Face till the Blood ran down;

that

[illegible] one they furiously trod upon till Blood gusht out of his [illegible] and Nose; To compleat the Mattter, the Informer took away from one of the Prisoners his Purse and Money, as if he had not been a quiet Neighbour, but a Prisoner of War: Nor was this accidental; but Designs no short Fit of Cruelty, upon an extraordinary Provocation; for at this bitter Rate have they treated them for several Moneths.

Witnesses,

Edward Hallam,
William Marryott,
John Wilford,
William Smith,
Richard Parker.

Nottingham-Shire.

UNder Pretence of prosecuting the late Act against *Conventicles* One *Penistон Whaley* a Justice, and one *Colgrave* a Bum-Bayly, and one *Walker*, both Informers have utterly ruin'd many poor Families in this County in their Estates, having taken or caus'd to be taken from several Persons about Seven Hundred Pounds, the Justice bidding the Officers take three or four Times the Value of the Fines, that they might sell good peny-worths, never returning, as we are informed, any one Record of Conviction into the Sessions, except forced by persons appealing: *John Godrick* and *William Hudson* of *Little Grienly* appealing to the Sessions, the Sessions ordered them their Money again; but the aforesaid *Penistон Whaley* still detains Sixty pounds in his Hands, contrary to the Orders of the Sessions, notwithstanding it has been divers Times demanded.

T. Sampson by Warrant from *G. Nevil*, Justice, for two Meetings had taken from him nineteen Head of Beasts and Goods to the Value of sixty Pounds and upwards, as was valued by the Neighbours; so that they left him not a Cow to give his Children Milk: That ever these Things should be done by such as count themselves *Christians*, and Followers of Christ Jesus, who suffered, but would have none to suffer for his Religion.

Witnesses,

Abraham Sampson,
Francis Hawksmore,
Robert Porter.

Nor-

Norfolk.

FOR several Meetings in and about *Cockley Clay* several Persons have had Goods taken from them to the Value of fifty three Pounds, *William Wat* being Informer. *John Patterson* had Two Hundred Sheep taken from him worth Eighty Pounds. *William Barber* being informed against by *John Gibbs* a Priest of *Clissing*, for Meeting, had Cows, Carts, a Plough, Harrows and Hay taken from him to the Value of Fifty Pounds; the said *William*'s House hath been rifled TEN Times, and he is now a Prisoner upon a Writ of *Excommunicato capiendo*. At *Fakenham* several Persons have been fined, *Wat* the Informer, and his Wife being the only Witnesses against them, & Goods have been taken to a great Value; they left one *Joseph Harrison* not so much as a Bed to lye upon; but he, his Wife and Children were fain to lye on Straw.

Cambridge.

FOR a peaceable Meeting at the House of *William Brasier* Shoemaker in *Cambridge*, he was fined Twenty Pounds by *John Hunt* Mayor, and *John Spencer* Vice-Chancellor, upon the Information of *Stephen Perry* a Tinker: The Officers that came to distrein for this Twenty Pounds said, *They had Warrants for Fifty Five Pounds more*; They took his Leather, Lasts, and the Seat he workt on, wearing Clothes, and Sheets where he lay, though on Straw, having taken his Bed before, not leaving him any Thing to cover him withal; so that he was fain to lodge abroad, till he could get some old Things to cover him at Home.

And there hath lately been taken from several Persons, for meeting in and about *Cambridge*, Goods and Cattel to the Value of Sixty Three Pounds and upwards.

At *Littleport*, *Ely*, and other Places in the Isle of *Ely*, several

[illegible] fin'd, & had their Goods taken for their peaceable [illegible]. *Cloth, Stuff, Houſhold-Goods and Cattel*; from one Woman the very Bed ſhe lay on; in all, to the Value of One Hundred Ninety five Pounds and upwards.

Edward Partridge and his Favorite *Thomas Richman*, the old Informer, uſed great Violence to ſeveral; *Edw. Partridge* ſtruck *Samuel Cater* twice, and being at Prayer, pulled him down by the Noſe, beating Men and Women till he broak his ſtaff: He alſo ſtruck one Perſon, ſtanding quietly at the Meeting-houſe Door, and felled him, that the Standers-by ſaid, *There is one knockt on the Head*; yet he revived in a little Time, but within ſix Moneths after dyed, and to his dying Day complained of that Blow.

Note, *William March* Juſtice, fined one Man (no *Quaker*) Five Pounds, for refuſing to help to carry away the aforeſaid Sufferers Goods, which Five Pounds, the poor Man paid; but wanting but Two Pence thereof, the ſaid Juſtice forced him to borrow it, to make up the ſum; and ſhortly after the poor Man dying, on his Death-Bed he much rejoyced, *That he had no Hand in taking away his Neighbour* Adams *his Goods.*

Witneſſes, *William Braſier,*
Samuel Cater,

Oxford-Shire.

FOR a Meeting at *Alvskoet* near *Burford* (*Walter Powel* Prieſt of the Town, being Informer, who before the Meeting had ſpoak to the Juſtices, at their Peril to be at the Meeting) ſeveral Perſons, were fined, and had Goods taken away to the Value of Forty Four Pounds and upwards.

Sommerſet-ſhire.

Somerſet-Shire.

THirty two Perſons were fined for being at a Burial, for which they had taken from them in Cows, Corn and other Goods, to the Value of Eighty Two Pounds and upwards, by Warrant from *Era. Pawlet* Juſtice, who when none elſe would buy the diſtreined Cattle, he ſent Men to buy them for himſelf.

One *Margery Oſmond*, who was not at the Buryal, and yet was fined by *F. Paulet*, went to him to know the Names of them that had ſworn againſt her, and deſired Juſtice of him; he ſaid, *It was a Miſtake*; by which it did afterwards appear, he was willing to excuſe the Informers; howbeit, he then read in a Book in the hearing of ſeveral Perſons, in which *Bayner* and *Withey* were recorded Informers againſt the ſaid Aſſembly at the Burial, and ſaid withal, *That ſhe ſhould proſecute them for Perjury at the next Seſſions, and that the Record at the Seſſions ſhould be Evidence againſt them*, or to that Effect; but he was not ſo good as his Word; for at the Seſſions Witneſſes were preſent to teſtifie, that ſhe was not at the ſaid Burial; but *Era. Pawlet* (in Favour to theſe Informers) left *Withey*'s Name out of the Record, and put in another's Name, who was not preſent, and alſo left out her Name; ſo there could be no Proceedings againſt the Informers for their Perjury, albeit he had iſſued out his Warrant to levy the Fine impoſed on her. The ſaid Juſtice *Pawlet* for the ſame Burial fined ſeveral perſons Twenty Four Pounds for an unknown Preacher, yet ſent a Certificate to the Mayor of *Bridgwater*, to diſtrein Twenty Pounds on the Goods of *John Anderton* for preaching at the Burial that Day; ſo he would have Forty Four Pounds in all [Note, this is Twenty Four Pounds more then the Rigour of the Law allows of, admitting it had been a Conventicle.] for the Preacher known & one unknown when in Truth there was none ſpoak, but *John Anderton* that Chriſtianly exhorted the People to conſider their latter End: And when *Mary Tyler*, the Widdow of the deceaſed (who was fined Four Pounds for being at her Husband's Burial, and had

for it) ſpoke mildly to him, to ſhew him his Ignorance, he told her, *It did not become Women to go to their Huſbands Burials.*

And ſeveral Perſons for being at Meetings at *Glaſtenbury* and *Gregory Stoake* in this County, have lately had Cattle, Corn and Goods taken from them, to the Value of One Hundred Forty Five Pounds and upwards, by Warrant from two Perſons, called, Juſtice *Waldron* and Juſtice *Croſs*.

At this Day there remain Priſoners in this County for the Teſtimony of Jeſus, Twenty one Perſons.

And there hath dyed in Priſon, Sufferers for good Conſcience ſake, in this County, ſince the Year 1660. Eighteen Perſons.

Witneſſes, *John Cuff*, *Henry Clothie*, *George Taylor*.

Berk-Shire.

THomas *Curtis*, fined Three Pound Fifteen Shillings, had a Mare taken from him worth about Seven Pounds, by Warrant from Juſtice *Craven*; and though an *Appeal* was tendered (according to the *Act*) it was refuſed; and though the Officers voluntarily offered the Juſtice the Fine, yet he would not take it; but had the Mare valued at Four Pounds, and kept her.

The 7th Day of the 8th Moneth, 1675. *William Armourer* and *George Goſwel*, Mayor of *Reading*, came to the Meeting, and becauſe the Women came not forth ſo ſoon as they wou'd have them, *W. Armourer* pluckt out of his Pocket a ſharp Inſtrument, and prickt ſeveral of them in a Shameful Manner, till it fetcht Blood; and afterwards tendered the *Oath of Allegiance* to ſeven of them, on purpoſe to enſnare them; and becauſe for Conſcience ſake they could not *ſwear* at all, they were ſent to Goal, where they now remain.

And the Mayor Thruſt ſome Women in a very Abuſive Manner, perticularly an Antient Woman, without regard to Age or Sex.

Of

Of which Cruelty, and much more, many in *Read* [illegible] Witneſſes.

Cheſhire.

JUſtice *Daniel* of *Dartsbury* hath fined one Meeting near him ſeveral times over, and hath taken from *T. Griggs* and others the Value of One Hundred and Sixteen Pounds, Fifteen Shillings and Ten Pence, in Kine and Horſes (which the Juſtice keeps to his Own Uſe and Work, as his own) alſo Corn, Braſs, Pewter, Bedding, and ſuch like Goods.

William Hall of *Congleton*, *Shoemaker*, was fined Twenty Pounds, by *Will. Knight*, Mayor, and two Juſtices, for having a Meeting at his Houſe; for which his Mare was diſtrained, when his Wife was riding on her. And ſome time after, they ſeized on his Shoes in his Shop. And another time, in his Abſence, with Mathooks brake open the Doors of his Dwelling Houſe, and took away Two Cart-Loads of Goods, whereupon *William* tendered an *Appeal*, but the ſaid Magiſtrates denyed it: Sometime after, the Mare, of her own accord, came Home, in his Abſence, his Wife let her in; now, notwithſtanding that upon their Crying the Mare, he went with two of his Neighbours, and acquainted the Chief Magiſtrate, that he had the Mare, and ſhe was in the Field, without any Lock to hinder them from her, and if they had more Right to her then he, they might fetch her; otherwiſe, if they pleaſed, he would joyn Iſſue with them, to try whoſe the Mare was; which they refuſed, and committed him to the Goal, and Arraigned him for his Life, as a Fellon; but was acquitted by the Judge and Jury.

Taken from ſeveral in and about *Nantwich*, by Warrant from Juſtice *Manwaring*, for Eighty Seven Pound in Fines, Goods to the Value of One Hundred and One Pounds, in Kine, Bacon, Bedding, Braſs, Pewter, Corn, Cloth, Shoes and Cheeſe: And from one Man was taken, the very Beds they lay on to the

Draghil, which they also carryed away. Some of the Sufferers appealing, the Jury acquitted them, but the Justices would not receive their Verdict; but at the next Sessions the Justices gave Judgment for the Informers; and not contented with this, they gavethem TREBLE Cost.

Note the Cheif Informer in these Sufferings, was one *John Widdowbury* of *Hanklow*, called an Esquire, who did it to be revenged on *Thomas Braisey* (one of the Meeting) for demanding Forty Pounds of him, which he owed unto *Thomas Braisey* upon Bond, which, that he might (as appears) defraud the said *Thomas Braisey* of, he hath since (by reviving an old Excommunication) sent him to Prison, and swears he will send his Wife after him from her four SMALL Children.

Witnesses, *Henry Fletcher*,
Jonathan Fletcher,
Samuel Ellis.

York-Shire.

HAving in a former Narrative acquainted you, that Goods to the Value of Two Thousand Three Hundred Eighty one Pounds, Ten Shillings, by the late Act against Conventicles, have been taken from us, with some other of our heavy Pressures and Sufferings in the County of *York*, for the Exercise of our Consciences towards God; and having yet obtained no Redress, but rather an Increase of our Sufferings, One having since dyed in Prison at *York*, where Twenty Four yet remain Prisoners, and some Hundreds of Families like to be ruin'd by Prosecutions, both in Temporal and Ecclesiastical Courts, because for Conscience-sake we cannot conform to the Religion and Worship imposed on us, nor deny the Religion and Worship which we have been taught by the Spirit of God, according to the Holy Scriptures; and our constant adhering to the Religion and Worship in Spirit, which we believe God requires of us, can injure no Man; but the Denyal of it would greatly injure us, because every Man must give an Account to God for himself:

ſelf: Oh why then ſhould we by Law be expoſed to Ruine and Deſtruction for the Exerciſe of our Conſciences towards God, ſince by our Ruines none are like to be raiſed, unleſs it be a few Informers, Paritors and other inferior Officers in the ſaid Courts; but the Dammage that may come to the King, and the whole Nation, by Diſcouraging, Perſecuting or Ruining an induſtrious innocent People, is like to be very great: Therefore we deſire, that you would be pleaſed to put a Stop to the vexatious Proceedings of the ſaid Informers and Courts, and confirm to us, your ſelves and Poſterities the Liberty of our Conſciences towards God, that we all may worſhip and ſerve him, as we believe he requires us; ſo ſhall we be accepted of him, and receive his Bleſſing, and Peace, and Tranquility in the whole Nation.

Witneſſes John Whitehead,
John Hall.

In divers other Counties in this Nation, there are many more Inſtances, both of great Havock and Spoil of Goods, impoveriſhing and ruining many innocent Families in their Trades and Livelihoods, which for Brevity ſake, is at preſent here omitted.

A Poſtſcript,

Wherein

The CIVIL *and* ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY *is briefly conſidered in their* Natures, Difference *and* Extents, *not Unſeaſonably to the preſent Poſture of Affairs.*

OUR Bleſſed Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt did long ſince diſtinguiſh the *Things of* Cæſar from *the Things of God* in his plain and notable Anſwer unto that enſnaring Queſtion of the *Jews*, *about paying Tribute to* Cæſar; *Render* (ſaith he) *unto* Cæſar *the Things that are* Cæſar's, *and to* God *the Things that are* God's; that is, *Divine Worſhip*, and all Things relating to it belong unto God, *Civil Obedience* to *Cæſar*: God can only be the Author of right Acts of Worſhip in the Mind, this is granted by all; therefore it is not in the Power of any Man or Men in the World, to ſway or compel the Mind in Matters of Worſhip to God; where this is attempted, God's Prerogative is invaded, and *Cæſar* (by which VVord I underſtand the *Civil Government*) hath all; for he doth not only take his own Things, but the Things appertaining to God alſo.

If

If any should ask me, *What are the Things properly belonging to Cæsar?* I answer in Scripture-Language, *To love Justice, and Judgment, relieve the Oppressed, right the Fatherless, be a Terror unto Evil-doers, and a Praise to them that do well*; for this is the great End of Magistracy; but perhaps my Answer shall be reckoned too general and ambiguous, and a fresh Question started, *Who are the Evil-doers, to whom the Civil Authority ought to be terrible?* But this ought in my Judgment to be no Question with Men that understand the Nature of Civil Authority; for those are the Evil-Doers, that violate those Laws which are necessary to the Preservation of Civil Society, as *Thieves*, *Murderers*, *Adulterers*, *Traytors*, *Drunkards*, *Cheats*, *Vagabonds*, and the like mischievous and dissolute Persons, Men void of Virtue, Truth and Sincerity, the Foundation of all good Government, and only firm Bond of human Society; whoever denies me this, must at the same Time say, that Virtue is less necessary to Government then Opinion, and that the most *Vitiated* Men, professing but *Cæsar's Religion*, are the *best* Subjects to *Cæsar's Authority*, consequently, that other Men, living never so honestly and industriously, & having else as good a Claim to Civil Protection and Preferment, shall meerly for their Dissent from that Religon (a Thing they can't help; *for Faith is the Gift of God*) be reputed the worst of Evil-doers, which is followed with exposing their Names to Obloquie, their Estates to Ruin, and their Persons to Goals, Exiles, and Abundance of other Cruelties: What is this, but to confound the *Things of Cæsar* with the *Things of God*; Divine Worship with Civil Obedience; the Church with the State, and perplex humane Societies with endless Debates about Religious Differences? nay, is not this to erect new Measures to try the Members of Worldly Societies by, and give an Accession to another power, then that which is necessary to the Constitution of Civil Government? But that which ought to deter wise Rulers from assuming and exercising such an Authority, is the Consideration of the pernicious Consequences of doing so.

For, *First*, It makes PROPERTY, which is the first

most fixt part of *English* Government, floating and uncertain; no Conformity to the Church, no Property in the State; and doubtless, the Insecurity of *Property* can be no Security to the Government.

2*dly*, It makes me owe more to the *Church* then to the *State*; for in this Case, the Anchor I ride by, is not my *Obedience* to Laws, relating to the Preservation of *Civil Society*, but *Conformity* to certain Things belonging to the Doctrine and Discipline of the *Church*; so that though I may be an honest, industrious *English man*, a great Lover of my *Country*, and an Admirer of the *Government* I live under, yet if I refuse to profess the Religion that either now is, or hereafter may be imposed, I must neither enjoy the *Liberty* of my *Person*, nor the *quiet Possession* of my *Estate*.

3*dly*, This not only alters the *Government*, by sacrificing Mens *Properties* for that which cannot be called a Sin against *Property*, nor an Offence to the Nature of *Civil Government*, if any Transgression at all; but it narrows the *Interest* and *Power* of the *Governours*; for proportionably, what Number they cut off from their Protection, they cut off from themselves and the Government, not only rendering a great Body of People *Useless*, but provoaking them to be *Dangerous*; to be sure it clogs the *Civil Magistrate* in his Administration of Government, making that necessary which is not at all necessary to him as *Caesar*; It is a Sort of *DUUMVIRATESHIP* in Power, by which the *Civil Monarchy* is broken; for as that was a Plurality of Men, *so this is a Plurality of Powers*; and to speak freely, the *Civil Power* is but *Lackey*, to run of all the unpleasant Errands the froward Zeal of the other sends it upon, and the best Preferment it receives for its Pains, is to be *Informer*, *Goaler* or *Executioner* to some of the best Livers, and therefore the best Subjects in the Kingdom: Oh what greater Injustice to *Caesar*! then to make his Government vary by such *Modes* of Religion, and him to hold his Obedience from his People, not by their *Conformity* to *Him*, but the *Church*.

4*thly*,

4*thly*, This is so far from resembling the Universal Goodness of God, who dispenses his Light, Air, Showres, and comfortable Seasons to all (and whom *Cæsar* ought always to imitate) and remote from increasing the *Trade*, *Populacy* and *Wealth* of this Kingdom, that it evidently tends to the utter Ruin of Thousands of *Traders*, *Artificers* and *Husband-men* and their Families, thereby increasing the Charges, by increasing the poor of the Nation.

5*thly*, This must needs be a great *Discouragement* to Strangers, from coming in, and setling themselves amongst us, when they have Reason to apprehend, that they, and their Children after them can be no longer secured in the Enjoyment of their *Properties*, then they shall be able to prevail with their Consciences, to believe that the Religion which our Laws do now, or shall at any Time approve and impose, is undoubtedly true; and the Way of worshipping of God, which shall at any Time be by our Laws enjoyned, is, and shall be more agreeable to the Will of God then any other Way in which God is worshipped in the World.

6*thly*, The Religion we are commanded Conformity to, doth not make better Livers (that's a Demonstrative) nor better *Artists*; for it cannot be thought, that going to *Church*, hearing *Common-Prayer*, or believing in the present *Episcopacy*, learns Men to build *Ships* or *Houses*, to make *Clothes*, *Shoes*, *Dials* or *Watches*, *Buy*, *Sell*, *Trade* or *Commerce*, better then any that are of another Perswasion; and since these Things are *Useful*, if not *Requisite* in *Civil Society*, is not prohibiting, nay, ruining such Men, because they will not come to hear *Common-Prayer*, &c. distructive of *Civil Society*, nor more obedient *Subjects*. If any object, *Dissenters have not always been so*; the Answer is ready, do not expose them, protect them in their *Lives*, *Liberties* and *Estates*; for in their present Posture they think they can call nothing their own, and that all the Comforts they have in this World are hourly lyable to *Forfeiture*, for their

Faith, Hope and *Practice* concerning the other World? Is not this to destroy Nature and Civil Government, when People are ruined in their Natural and Civil Capacity, not for Things relating to either, but what are of a Super-natural Import.

7thly, This deprives them of Protection that protect the Government; Dissenters have a great Share in the *Trade*, which is the Greatness of this Kingdom; and they make a large Proportion of the *Taxes* that maintain the Government; and is it reasonable, or can it be *Christian*, when they pay *Tribute* to *Cæsar*, to be preserved in an *Undisturbed Possession* of the rest, and that the rest should be continually exposed for the peaceable Exercise of their Consciences to God?

8thly, Neither is this a Conformity to True and Solid Religion, such as is necessary to Eternal Salvation, wherein most Parties verbally agree, but for a Modification of Religion, *some peculiar Way* of Worship and Discipline: *All confess One God, One Christ, One Holy Ghost, and that it is indispensably requisite to live Soberly, Righteously and Godlikely in this present evil World*; yet is one prosecuting the other for his Conscience, *seizing Corn, driving away Cattel, breaking open Doors, taking away and spoiling of Goods*; in some Places not leaving a *Cow to give poor Orphans Milk*, nor a *Bed to lye on*; in other Places Houses have been swept so clean, that a *Stool* hath not been left to sit on, nor so much as working Tools to labour for Bread. To say nothing of the *Opprobrious Speeches, Bloody Blows* and *Tedious Imprisonments*, even to Death it self, through *Nastiness* of *Dungeons*, that many Innocent People have suffered for their peaceable Conscience only.

9thly, But this Way of proceeding for Maintenance of the National Religion, is of an ill Consequence upon this Account; Heaven is barr'd from all further *Illuminations*, let God send what Light he pleaseth, it must not be received by *Cæsar*'s People, without *Cæsar*'s Licence; and if it happen that *Cæsar* be not presently convinced it is of God, at this Rate I must either

renounce

renounce my *Convictions*, and loose my *Soul* to please *Cæsar* or profess and persevere in my *Perswasion*, and loose my *Life*, *Liberty or Estate* to please God; this hath frequently occurr'd, and may again; therefore I would entreat *Cæsar* to consider the sad Consequence of *Imposition*, and remember, both that God did never ask Man Leave to *Introduce Truth*, or make further Discoveries of his Mind to the World, and that it hath been a woful Snare to those Governments that have been drawn to employ their Power against his Work and People.

10*thly*, This Way of Proceedure endeavours to stiffle, or else to punish *Sincerity*; for *Fear* or *Hopes*, *Frowns* or *Favour* prevail only with base Minds, Souls degenerated to the third and fourth Generation; every *Spark of Integrity* must be extinguisht, where *Conscience* is sacrificed to *Worldly Safety* and *Preferment*; so that this Net holds no *Temporizers*, *Honest Men* are all the Fish it catches; but one would think they should make but an ill Treat to such as reckon themselves *generous Men*, and what is more *Christians* too; but that which renders the Matter more unjustifiable, is, the *Temptation* such *Severity* puts upon Men, not hardy enough to *suffer for Conscience*, yet strongly perswaded they have *Truth* on their Side, to desert their *Principles*, and smother their *Convictions*, which in plain Terms is to make of sincere Men Hypocrites, whereas it is one great End of Government, by all laudable Means to preserve Sincerity; for without it there can be no Faith or Truth in *Civil Society*: nor is this all; for it's a *Maxim* worthy of *Cæsar*'s Notice, NEVER TO THINK HIM TRUE TO *CÆSAR* THAT IS FALSE TO HIS OWN CONSCIENCE; besides, raped Consciences treasure up *Revenge*, and such Persons are not likely to be longer Friends to *Cæsar*, then he hath *Preferments* to allure them, or *Power* to deter them from being his most implacable Enemies.

11*thly*, There is not so ready a Way to *Atheism*, as this of extinguishing the Sense of Conscience for Worldly Ends; destroy that Internal Rule of *Faith*, *Worship* and *Practice* towards

God,

God, and the Reaſon of my Religion will be *Civil Injunctions*, and not *Divine Convictions*; conſequently, I am to be of as many Religions as the Civil Authority ſhall impoſe, however untrue or contradictory; this *Sacred Tye* of Conſcience thus broken, farewel to all *Heavenly Obligations* in the Soul, *Scripture-Authority* and ancient *Proteſtant Principles*; Chriſt may at this Rate become what the *Jews* would have had him, and his Apoſtles be reputed Turners of the World upſide down, as their Enemies repreſented them, and the godly Martyrs of all Ages ſo many Self-Murderers; for they might juſtly be eſteemed Reſiſters of *Worldly Authority*, ſo far as that Authority concerns it ſelf with the Impoſition of Religion, becauſe they refuſed the Conformity commanded, even to Death. And it may not be unworthy of *Caſar*'s Conſideration, if from theſe Proceedings People are tempted to infer, there is nothing in Religion but *Worldly Aims* and *Ends*, becauſe ſo much Power is abus'd under the Name of *Religion*, to vex and deſtroy Men for being of another Religion, that he hazards the beſt Hold and Obligation he hath to Obedience, which is Conſcience; for where they are taught to obey for *Intereſt*, *Duty* and *Conviction* are out of Doors: By all Means let Conſcience be ſacred, and *Virtue* and *Integrity* (the under diſſenting Principles) cheriſht; *Charity* is more powerful then *Severity*, *Perſwaſion* then *Penal Laws*.

Laſtly, To the Reproach of this Courſe with wiſe Men it hath never yet obtain'd the End deſired; for inſtead of Compliance, the Difference is widened, the Sufferers are pitied by Spectators which only helps to increaſe the Number of Diſſenters; for whoever is in the wrong, few think the Perſecutor in the Right. This in all Ages having been the Iſſue of ſevere Proſecution of Diſſenters for Matters of *Religion*; what a Cruel, Troubleſom, Thankleſs, Succeſleſs Office is it for *Caſar* to be employed in; may he take better Meaſure of his Authority, and uſe his Power to the Encouragement of all the *Virtuous* and *Induſtrious*, and Juſt Puniſhment of the *Lazy* and *Vicious* in all Perſwaſions; ſo ſhall the Kingdom *Floriſh*, and the Government *Proſper*.

For

For Eccleſiaſtical Authority, *or in plainer* Engliſh Church-Power, *which makes up the other Part of this* Poſtſcript, *it will be requiſite to conſult* Holy Scripture, *where we ſhall be informed of the* Inſtitution *and* Practice *of it among the* Ancient Chriſtians; *and by that* Canon *all* People *profeſſing* Chriſtianity, *pretend a Willingneſs to be concluded.*

Church-Power ſuppoſeth a *Church* firſt; It will not be improper therefore to examine *firſt*, What a Scripture-New-Teſtament-Church is; and *next*, what is the Scripture-Power belonging to ſuch a Church: A Scripture-Church is *a Company or Society of People, believing, profeſſing and practiſing according to the Doctrine and Example of Chriſt Jeſus and his Apoſtles*, and not according to the *Scribes* & *Phariſees*, that *taught for Doctrine the Traditions of Men*: They are ſuch as are Meek in Heart, Lowly in Spirit, (*a*) Chaſt in Life, (*b*) Virtuous in all Converſation, (*c*) full of Self-Denyal, (*d*) Long-Suffering and Patience, (*e*) not only forgiving, (*f*) but loving their very Enemies; (*g*) a People ſo effectually redeemed from the Impieties and Vanities of the World; (*h*) he that thought it no Robbery to be equal with God, (*i*) thought it no Diſparagement to be Head to, and account as his own Body: (*k*) It was upon a Society thus qualified, that the Holy Ghoſt beſtows theſe excellent Names,

a *Mat.* 11, 29
b 1 *Pet.* 3. 3.
2 *Cor.* 11. 2.
c *Phil.* 4. 8.
1 *Pet.* 1. 15.
d *Mat.* 16. 24.
e 2 *Cor.* 4. 6.
f *Luke* 6 37.
g *Mat.* 5 44.
h *Rev* 14. 4.
i *Phil.* 2. 6.
k *Eph.* 1. 22.
Col. 1. 18.

Diſ-

l *Joh.* 19.14, 15. *Disciples and Friends of Christ*; (l) *Heirs and Co-heirs with Christ* (m) *Christ's Brethren*
m *Rom* 8.17. *and Kindred* (n) *A peculiar People* (o) *The*
n *Heb.* 2. 11. *purchased of his most precious Blood* (p) *the Re-*
o *Tit.* 2. 14. *deemed from the Earth* (q) *A Royal Priest-*
p *Acts* 20.28. *hood, an Holy Nation*; (r) *The Church of the*
q *Rev.* 14.3. *First Born*; (s) *Christ's Body*, (t) *and the Lamb's*
r 1 *Pet.* 2. 9. *Bride* (u) which answers but Christ's own Cha-
s *Heb.* 12.23. racter of himself, Religion and Kingdom, which
t *Col.* 1. 24. is the most apt Distinction that ever can be gi-
u *Rev.* 21. 9. ven of the Nature of his Church and her Autho-
w *Joh.* 18. 36. rity, *viz* (w) MY KINGDOM IS NOT OF THIS WORLD.

Mat. 22. 21. which well connects with *Render unto* Cæsar *the things that are* Cæsar's, *and unto* God *the things that are* God's,

It was an Answer to a very suspitious Question; for it was familiarly bruited, *that he was a King, and came to*

Luke 13. 2. *possess his Kingdom, and was by some called the King of the Jews.*

The Jews being then subjected to the *Roman* Empire, it concerned *Pilate*, *Cæsar*'s *Deputy* to understand his pretentions, which upon better information he found to center in this, *My*

Joh. 18. 36. *Kingdome is not of this World, else would my Subjects fight for me*: As if he had said, these Reports are a meer perversion of my Peaceable and Self-denying Intentions, an Infamy invented by malicious *Scribes* and *Pharisees* that they might the better prevaile with *Cæsar* to sacrifice me to their hatred and revenge: I am *Cæsar*'s Friend, I seek none of his Kingdom from him, nor will I sow Sedition, plot or conspire his Ruin; no, *let all Men render unto* Cæsar *the Things that are* Cæsar's; that's my Doctrine; for I am come to erect a Kingdom of another Nature then that of this World, to wit, a Spiritual

Luke 17. 21. Kingdom to be set up in the Heart: And Conscience is my Throne, upon that will I sit, and

Tit. 2. 12. rule the Children of Men in Righteousness; and who ever *lives soberly, righteously and godlily in this World*,

shall

shall be my good and loving Subjects, and they will certainly make no ill ones for Cæsar, since such Virtue is the end of Government, and renders his Charge both more easie & safe then before. Had I any other Design then this, would I suffer my Self to be reproached, traduced and persecuted by a conquered people? were it not more my Nature to suffer then revenge, would not their many provocations have drawn from me some Instance of another Nature then the Forbearance and Forgiveness I teach? Certainly were I animated by another principle then the perfection of Meekness and Divine Sweetness, I should not have forbiden *Peter* fighting, saying, *put up thy Sword*, Mat. 26. 52. or endoctrinated my Followers to bear Wrongs, but revenge all Affronts, and by Plots and other Stratagems have attempted Ruin to my Enemies, and the Acquest of worldly Empire; and no doubt but they would have fought for me: Nay I am not only patiently (and with Pitty to Enemies) sensible of their barbarous Carriage towards me for my Good Will to them (for their Eternal Happiness I only seek) but I foresee what they further intend against me, they design to crucifie me, and to do it, will rather free a Murderer then save their Saviour, they will perform that *Mat. 27. 20.* Cruelty with all the Agravation and Contempt they can, deriding me themselves, and exposing me to the Derision of others, for they will *Ver. 27. &c.* mock my Divine Kingship with a Crown of Thorns, and in my Agonies of Soul and Body *Ver. 29.* for a Cordial, give me Gall and Vineger to drink; but *ver. 48.* notwithstanding all this, to satisfie the World that my Religion is above Wrath and Revenge, I can forgive them; and to secure *Cæsar* and his People *Luke 23. 34.* from all Fears of Imposition, whatever Authority *Mat. 26. 53.* I have, and how many Legions of Angels soever, I might command both to my Deliverance, and the Enforcement of my Message upon Mankind; I resolve to promote neither with worldly Power; for it is not of the Nature of my Religion and Kingdom: and as I neither assume nor practise any such thing my Self, that am the great Author, Promoter and Example of this Holy Way; so have I not only never taught my Disciples to live or act other-

wise or given them a Power I refuse to use my Self; but expressly forbad them, and warn'd them in my Instructions of exercising any the least Revenge, Imposition or Coertion towards any: This is evident in my Sermon preached upon the Mount, where I freely, publickly and with much Plainness, not only *prohibited Revenge*, but *injoyned Love to Enemies* making it to be a great Token of true Discipleship to suffer Wrongs, and conquer Cruelty by Patience and Forgiveness, which is certainly a great Way off Imposition or Compulsion upon other Men. And when I was strongly bent for *Jerusalem*, and sent Messengers before to prepare some Entertainment for me and my Company in a Village, belonging to the *Samaritans*, and it seems the People refused, because they apprehended I was going to *Jerusalem*; this provoakt some of my Disciples, particularly *James* and *John* to that Degree, that they asked me, if I were willing that they should command Fire from Heaven to destroy those *Samaritans*, as *Elias* in another Case had done; I turned about, and rebuked them, saying, *Ye know not what Manner of Spirit ye are of; for I am not come into the World to destroy Mens Lives, but* by my peaceable Doctrine and Example *to save them.*

Mat. 5. 44. 45, 46, 47.

Luke 9. 53, 54, 55, 56.

At another Time one of my Disciples, relating to me some Passages of their Travails, told me of a certain Man they saw, that cast out Devils in my Name, and because he was not of their Company, nor followed them, said he, *we forbad him*; as if they had thereby served and pleased me; but I presently testified my Dislike of the Ignorance and Narrowness of their Zeal, and to inform them better told them, they should not have forbid him; *for he that is not against us is for us*; my Drift is not Opinion, but Piety; they that cast out Devils, convert Sinners, and turn Men to Righteousness, are not against me, nor the Nature and Religion of my Kingdom, and therefore ought to be cherisht rather then forbid. That I might sufficiently declare and inculcate my Mind in this Matter, I did at an other Time, and upon a different Occasion, preach against all Coertion and Persecution for Matters of Faith and Practice towards God, in my Parable of the Sower, as my

Luke 9. 49, 50.

Words

Words manifeſt, which were theſe; *The Kingdom of Heaven is likened unto a Man which ſowed good Seed in his Field; but while Men ſlept, his Enemy came, and ſowed Tares among the Wheat, and went his Way; but when the Blade ſprung up, and brought forth Fruit, there appeared the Tares alſo; ſo the Servants of the Houſe-houlder came and ſaid, didſt thou not ſow good Seed in thy Field? from whence then hath it Tares? he anſwered, an Enemy hath done this; the Servants ſaid unto him, wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? but he ſaid NAY, leſt while ye gather up the Tares, ye root up alſo the Wheat with them, let both grow together till the Harveſt, and in the Time of Harveſt I will ſay to the Reapers, gather ye together firſt the Tares, and bind them in Bundles to burn them, but gather the Wheat into my Barn.* Mat. 13. 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30

And that I might not leave ſo neceſſary a Truth miſ apprehended of my dear Followers, or liable to any Miſ-conſtructions, my Diſciples, when together, deſiring an Explanation, I interpreted my Words thus;

He that ſoweth the good Seed is the Son of Man; the Field is the World; the good Seed are the Children of the Kingdom; but the Tares are the Children of the Wicked One; the Enemy that ſowed them is the Devil; the Harveſt is the End of the World; and the Reapers are the Angels. Ver. 36, 37, 38, 39.

This Patience, this Long-Suffering and great Forbearance belong to my Kingdom and the Subjects of it, my Doctrine ſpeaks it, and my Example confirms it, and this can have no poſſible Agreement with Impoſition and Perſecution for Conſcience: And that I might ſufficiently deter my Followers from any ſuch Thing, as I profeſs my ſelf to be their Lord and Maſter, ſo have I commanded them to love one another in a more eſpecial Manner; but if inſtead thereof any grow proud, high minded, and beat or abuſe their Fellow-Servants in my religious Family, when I come to take account of my Houſhold, he ſhall be cut aſunder, and appointed his Portion among the Unbelievers; behold the Recompence I appoint to Impoſing Lordly Perſons, ſuch as count others Infidels, and to make them ſuch Believers as themſelves, will exerciſe Violence *Joh.* 15. 12.

towards them, and if they prevail not, will call for Fire from Heaven to devour them, and if Heaven refuse them, will fall a beating and killing, and think (it may be they do God good Service) but their Lot shall be with Unbelievers forever: Nay, I have so effectually provided against all Mastery, that I expressly charged them, *not to be many Masters*; *for one was their Master*; I told them, that *the greatest amongst them was to be Servant to the rest*, not to impose upon the rest; nay, that to be great in my Kingdom, they must become as gentle and harmless as little Children, and such cannot force and punish in Matters of Religion. In fine, I strictly commanded them, to love one another, as I have loved them, who am ready to lay down my Life for the Ungodly, instead of taking away Godly Mens Lives for Opinions; and this is the great Maxim of my holy Religion, *He that would be my Disciple, must* not crucifie other Men, but *take up his Cross, and follow me, who am meek and lowly*, and such so enduring shall find Eternal Rest to their Souls, this is the Power I use, and this is the Power I give.

How much this agrees with the Language, Doctrine and Example of Jesus Christ, I shall leave them to consider, that read and believe Scripture; but some affected to present Church-Power, and desiring their Ruine that conform not to her Worship and Discipline, will object, That Christ did give his Church Power to bind and loose, and bid any Person agrieved tell the Church.

I grant it; but what Binding was that? with outward Chains and Fetters, in nasty Holes and Dungeons? nothing less: Or was it, that his Church had that true Discerning in her, and Power with him, that what she bound, that is condemned, or loosed, that is remitted, should stand so in God's Sight and Christ's Account.

But tell the Church; and what then? observe Christ's Extent in the Punishment of the Offender; *If the Offender will neither receive private Admonition, nor hear the Church, then* (sayes Christ) *let him be to thee as an* Heathen, *&c.* Here's no Fines, Whips, Stocks, Pillories, Goals, and the like Instruments

ſtruments of Cruelty, to puniſh the Heretick; for the Purport of his Words ſeems to be no more then this; If any Member of the Church refuſe thy private Exhortation and the Church's Admonition, look upon ſuch a Perſon to be no more of you; let him take his Courſe, thou haſt done well, and the Church is clear of him.

Well, but ſay the *Church-Fighters* of our Age, *Did not* St. Paul *wiſh them cut off that troubled the Church in his Time?* Yes: But with what Sword think you? Such as Chriſt bid *Peter* put up, or the Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God? Give him leave to explain his own Words; *For the* WEAPONS *of our Warfare are* NOT CARNAL, *but mighty through God, to the pulling down of ſtrong Holds, caſting down Imaginations, and every high Thing that exalteth it ſelf againſt the Knowledge of God, and bringing every Thought into Obedience to Chriſt.*

What think you of this? Here are Warfares, Weapons, Oppoſitions and Conformity, and not only no external Force about Matters of Religion us'd or countenanced, but the moſt expreſs and pathetical Excluſion and Rejection of any ſuch Thing that could be given.

Now obſerve what Sort of Church-Government he recommends to his beloved *Timothy*; *Avoid fooliſh Queſtions, and Genealogies, and Contentions, and ſtriving about the Law, for they are unprofitable and vain: A Man that is an Heretick, after the firſt and ſecond Admonition, reject, knowing that he that is ſuch is ſubverted and ſinneth, being* CONDEMNED OF HIMSELF, *or ſelf-condemned.*

It's very remarkable; *firſt*, That t' is great Apoſtle, inſtead of exhorting *Timothy* to ſtand upon Nicetics, and ſacrifice Mens Natural Comforts and Enjoyments for Opinions of Religion, injoyns him to ſhun Diſputes about them, leaving People to their own Thoughts and Aprehenſions in thoſe Matters, which excellently well coheres with another Paſſage of his; *Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded, and if in any Thing ye be otherwiſe minded,* Phil. 3. 15.

ed, *God shall* REVEAL *even this unto you*;' he did not say, you shall be FINED, PILLAGED, EXCOMMUNICATED and FLUNG into Prison, if ye be not of our Mind.

2*dly*, That, in the Apostles Definition, an Heretick is a self-condemned Person, one conscious to himself of Error, and Obstinacy in it; but that are not conscientious Dissenters; for many Ten Thousands in this Nation act as they believe, and dissent from the National Religion, purely upon a Principle of Conscience to Almighty God; and with Men of any Tenderness or common Sense, their continual great Sufferings in Person and Estate, and their Patience under them, are a Demonstration, or there can be none in the World: Nor can their Persecutors disprove them, unless they could search Hearts, and that is a little too far for a Fallible Spirit to reach, and an Infallible One they deny: So that the Apostle makes not the Heretick to lye upon the Side of mis-believing, or not coming up to his Degree of Faith & Knowledge, but upon the Side of Wilfully, Turbulently, Obstinately and Self-condemnedly maintaining inconsisting Things with the Faith, Peace and, Prosperity of the Church.

Granting us then not to be obstinate and self-condemned Dissenters (and you cannot reasonably refuse it us) how do you prove us Erroneous in the other Part? All Parties plead Scripture, and that for the most opposite Principles; *Homousians* and *Arrians*, *Calvinists* and *Arminians*, *Papists*, *Jansenists* and *Protestants*; The Scripture, you see, cannot determine the Sense of it self; it must have an Interpreter; he must either be Fallible or Infallible; If the first, we are worse then before; for Men are apt to be more confident, and yet are still upon as uncertain Grounds; If the last, this must either be an external or an Internal Judge; If an External, you know where you are without pointing; for there stands nothing between you and Popery in that Principle; If an Internal Judge, either it is our selves, or the Spirit of Christ dwelling in us; Not our selves; for then the Rule is the Thing ruled, which cannot be; and if it be the Spirit of Christ Jesus (and the Apostle tells us, *That unless we have the Spirit we are none of Christ's*) then is the Neck

Neck of Impoſition broken, and what haſt thou to do to judge me? let me ſtand or fall to my own Maſter; And upon this Foot went *Luther*, *Calvin*, *Melancthon*, *Beza* abroad; And *Cranmer*, *Ridly*, *Hooper*, *Jewel*, *Bradford*, *Philpot*, *&c.* at home, and as good Men, and conſtant Martyrs in Ages before them.

But ſuppoſe Conſcientious Diſſenters as ill Men as the Apoſtle deſcribes an Heretick to be; what is the Puniſhment?

3*dly*, *A Man that is an Heretick, after the firſt and ſecond Admonition reject*, that is, deny his Communion, declare he is none of you, condemn his Proceedings by a publick Cenſure among your ſelves; what more can be ſtrain'd by the fierceſt Proſecutors of Men for Religion out of theſe Words.

But was this the Evangelical Rule and Practice? Yes, that it was; Oh then whence comes Impoſition Force Cruelty, Spoil of Goods, Impriſonments, Knockings, Beatings, Bruiſings, Stockins, Whippings, and Spilling of Blood for Religion? What Church is that, whoſe Officers are ſo far from cloathing the naked, as to ſtrip the clothed, from feeding the hungry, that they take their Bread from them, and thoſe poor Widdows and helpleſs Orphans too; and ſo remote from viſiting the ſick and impriſoned, that they drag away their Bed from under them, and caſt People into Priſon for Conſcience ſake; Nay they haled away an Honeſt Man from a Meeting to Goal at *Reading*, (but the other Day) not permitting him to TAKE LEAVE of his poor Wife, newly delivered, and in a DYING Condition, though ſhe alſo deſired it, and liv'd but juſt by the Meeting-Houſe where they took him. In fine, what are they that for no other Cauſe paſs ſuch dreadful Excommunications, as render the Excommunicants little better then outlawed Perſons, ſubjecting their Civil and Natural Rights to their Pride, Paſſion, Intereſt or Revenge, unleſs they will purchaſe their Enjoyment at the dear Rate of looſing their own Souls? For what elſe can be the Conſequence

of conforming to that I do not believe? Is not this to destroy sincere Men, and make and save Hypocrites.

Oh, that such as are concern'd would soberly consider, if any Thing is so Scandalous to True Religion as FORCE; who can think that evidence Good that is extorted? And what a Church is that, which is made up of such Proselites, or that employes such Means to make them? O where is that *Christian* Meekness, Patience and Forbearance? How many have been ruined, that were never exhorted, and excommunicated before they were once admonished? This is not to serve God, but Worldly Interest: its quite contrary to Christ's Counsel and Doctrine: He came to save, and not to destroy Nature to magnifie his Grace. You pretend to hate *J. Calvin*'s unconditional Reprobation, yet practise it; If you say no, Conformity is your Condition: I answer, that its as unreasonable to require an impossibillity, as cruel to damn Men for not doing it; For as you say, his Doctrine makes God to command them to repent, that cannot repent, and yet damn them if they repent not; So you injoyn Men to relinquish their present Faith and Worship, and conform to yours, which is not in their Power to do, yet damn them in a temporal Respect if they refuse it; For you make such an unavoidable Dissent, punishable with the Destruction of Mens Liberties and Estates: You had better leave off valuing your selves upon the Mercy and Well-Natur'dness of that Tenet of the universal Love of God to Mankind, till you love more then your selves, and abominate the Church of England's being, such an Elect to the Civil Government as utterly reprobates the rest, as you pretend to detest the like Injustice in *J. Calvin*'s Notion of Election and Reprobation.

And the Truth of it is, this helps on *Atheism* as much as any Enormity in the Land, when Witty Men, not willing to take Pains to examine after the Truth and Excellency of Religion, behold Men that call themselves Christ's Ministers, and the Apostles Successors and Followers, to affect and seek Government, and yet twice deny it, when they go to receive it, that some others grow Lordly, live Voluptuously, and watch after

after the biggeſt Preferments, not being excited by moſt Service for God, but Earthly Power and Wealth for themſelves, and at the ſame Time perſecuting Men of more Self-Denyal, for Matters of Opinion about Faith and Worſhip towards God; ſo that *No Conformity* to this Church, *No Protection* from the State. Which among *Proteſtants* is ſo much the more unreaſonable, becauſe they by theſe Courſes implicitely own and aſſume the higheſt Infallibility and Perfection, and yet deny any ſuch Thing; For it ſuppoſes that nothing is Truer, nothing Perfecter, or elſe they both perſecute Men to embrace a Fallible and Imperfect Religion, and with cruel Penalties provide againſt any Thing more True or Infallible; the greateſt Injury to the World that can be; for it is a plain Endeavour to fruſtrate all thoſe excellent Prophecies and gracious Promiſes God has given, and the holy Scriptures declare of the latter Dayes. To conclude, I ſhall deſire Men of this Unnatural, Unreaſonable and Unchriſtian Spirit to conſider:

1. What Church was that which *John* ſaw, riding upon the Powers of the Earth, employing their Authority to force CONFESSION, TRIBUTE and SUBJECTION to her?

2. What that Church was which dyed her ſelf in the BLOOD of them that believed not in her, againſt whom the poor Souls under the Altar (whoſe Bodies had been beheaded by her) cryed to God?

3. What Church it was that would ſuffer none to Buy, Sell or Traffick without having her *Mark* (CONFORMITY to her) in their Forehead or right Hand, that is, either thoſe that heartily and openly confeſt her, or thoſe that baſely complyed for Fear?

4. What Church is that which Trades in the Souls of Men? Read *Revelations. Chap.* 13. 18. & 20.

5. Whether this Church reigns not, wherever Mens,

LIBERTIES and *PROPERTIES*, with all the Comforts of this Life are expoſed and ſacrificed for Matters of *FAITH* and *WORSHIP* to Almighty God.

Weigh theſe Things, you great Church-Men of the Age, in the Fear of that God who made Heaven and Earth, and think not to make thus cheap of the Lives, Liberties and Eſtates of *Free-born Engliſh People, and Harmleſs Chriſtians for their peaceable Conſcience*, without being accountable to that Great Lord in the *Terrible* Day of his Judgment, that draws on upon the World: No Plea you have ſhall be able to juſtifie theſe things, or fence off the heavy Stroak of that Juſt Judge, unleſs you repent: 'Tis not Succeſſion in Name, but Nature, that makes the true Chriſtian Miniſter and Biſhop: And where the Divine Life and Holy Qualifications of Chriſt and his Apoſtles are wanting, there can be no Succeſſion, but what is as proper to the falſe Church as the true, the Counterfeit as the Chriſtian: *Be not deceived, God will not be mocked, ſuch as you Sow, ſuch ſhall you Reap.* Remember Chriſt's Words; *Bleſſed are the Poor in Spirit; for theirs is the Kingdom of God. Bleſſed are they that mourn, for they ſhall be comforted. Bleſſed are the Pure in Heart; for they ſhall ſee God. Bleſſed are the Meek; for they ſhall inherit the Earth. Bleſſed are the MERCIFUL; for they ſhall obtain Mercy.* Therefore Reform, and let your Moderation be known unto all Men, for the Lord is at hand: *Even ſo come Lord Jeſus.*

ERRATA

Pag. 18. Line 33. for *Injuſtice* read *Injury*. p. 20. l. 11. dele *and*. p. 20. 31. read *Heaven is hereby barr'd, as much as in Men lyes, from*. p. 22. l. 22. for *the* read *though*. p. 25. l. 15. read *revenged*. p. 28. l. 25. read *Chains*.

THE SECOND PART OF THE Continued Cry OF THE OPPRESSED FOR JUSTICE.

BEING

An Additional Account of the Present and Late Cruelty, Oppression & Spoil inflicted upon the Persons and Estates of many of the Peaceable People called *Quakers*, in divers Counties, Cities and Towns in this Nation of *England* and *Wales* (chiefly upon the late Act made against Conventicles) for the Peaceable Exercise of their Tender Consciences towards God in Matters of Worship and Religion.

This is thank-worthy, if a Man for Conscience towards God endure Grief, suffering wrongfully, 1 Pet. 2. 19.

We shall not find any Occasion against this Daniel, *except we find it against him concerning the Law of his God,* Dan. 6. 5.

Galio *said unto the* Jews, *If it were a Matter of Wrong or Wicked Lewdness, O ye* Jews, *Reason would that I should bear with you,* Acts 18. 14.

Printed in the Year, 1676.

WHereas *great Suffering and Oppreſſion is ſtill continued and inflicted upon many of the People call'd* Quakers *in divers Counties and Places in this Nation, upon the late* Act againſt Conventicles, for meeting together to worſhip God according to their Conſciences and Perſwaſions; *& many induſtrous Families much Ruined, the Fatherleſs and Widows greatly oppreſſed, and Trading in many places much impared and decayed, and the Cry of the Poor (who have been imployed by induſtrous Tradeſmen) very great, many wanting Bread becauſe of the great Diſcouragement occaſioned by the great Spoil and Havock that's made upon their Goods, and Fruits of the Labours of induſtrous Families, only for the* Exerciſe of their tender Conſciences towards God, *as the following Narrative will more particularly evince; which* Sufferings *and* Oppreſſions *have been occaſioned chiefly under Pretence of the ſaid Act, and continued in divers Counties by the means of ſome Turbulent Malicious Prieſts, who themſelves have turned Informers, and encouraged others to ſeek out and haunt the peaceable Meetings of the People aforeſaid, and to inform the Magiſtrates againſt them; the Men thus encouraged and employed being ſome* idle, diſſolute *and* extravagant Perſons, not willing to take Pains in the Creation for a Livelihood, *as other Men do, have taken upon them and been encouraged in this Unchriſtian as well as Inhumane Courſe of informing againſt peaceable Subjects for their Own Ends and Advantages, wandring from place to place to find out ſuch peaceable Meetings, wherein*

wherein if there be either Preaching, Praying or Waiting on God in Silence, they trouble the Magistrates, instigating such as are willing to gratifie them; and those Priests who have either themselves turned or encouraged Informers, in order to suppress the said Meetings, and make a Prey upon the said Peoples Estates & Livelihoods, ruining and destroying these peaceable Protestant-*Subjects in their Rights and Properties, under pretence of Doing the King Service; which* Oppression *and* Grievance *hath long continued in this Nation, and the Cry thereof becomes louder and louder from many Distressed Families, since that divers Accounts and Applications have been given and made, and yet no Redress: Our Complaint still remains, not only of Unchristian but Inhumane Usage herein; & that God who knows our Hearts and Conscientiousness towards him, and our Innocency towards the King and Government, he knows our Cause and hears our Cry, and according to his Promise we expect, that* for the Oppression of the Poor and the Sighing of the Needy he will arise,&c. *however, We, the People who are the present Sufferers, do look upon our selves obliged in Conscience, to spread before you this brief Account following, which is but as a short Appendix in comparison of the Account that might be given of the great and many Sufferings that have been and still are continued upon the said Act in divers places of this Nation (besides the great number that were* Imprisoned till Death, *and others* Banished *from their Distressed Families into forreign Plantations upon the* Act for Banishment*) as also upon the* Bishops Writs, De Excommunicato Capiendo, &c. *many have been, for some years, and still are kept in Prisons and destructive Goals in this Nation in di-*

vers

vers Counties, where ſeveral are Sick, *and ſome have late-ly* laid down their Lives *for not paying* Small Tythes, Eaſter-Reckonings *and to the* Repairation of the Steeple-Houſes.

And upon the Statutes made againſt Recuſants, *in the Reign of Queen* Elizabeth, *ſome Hundreds of the afore-ſaid People are returned up into the* Exchequer, *and* Writs of Enquiry *have been ſent down to the Sheriffs, and Juries impannelled to enquire into their Eſtates, who have made Returns thereof into the* Exchequer, *from whence Writs are iſſued and ſent down to the Sheriffs in many Counties,* to make ſeizure of Two Thirds of their Eſtates, *and the Sheriffs Bailiffs being Unreaſonable have (in ſome places) taken a great deal more then what was pretended to be the King's Right: It is too great a work to give a particular Account of all that are like to ſuffer on this Account, the Sheriffs in ſeveral Counties having* Writs of Seizure *in their Hands, and threaten to put them in Execution; Only two Inſtances in one County, for brevity ſake you are deſired to take notice of, as followeth.*

The 23d day of the 11th moneth, 1676. *the Sheriff of* Cambridge-ſhire *ſent his Bailiff* John Burgani *to demand of* Richard Webb *of* Weſt-wickham *in the ſame County* 13 l. 6 s. 8 d. *being Two Thirds of the yearly value of his Eſtate, as it was returned by a Jury impannelled to make Enquiry into the Eſtates of* Popiſh Recuſants; *but* Richard Webb *being innocent, could not anſwer the Bailiff's Demand, whereupon the Bailiff and his Aſſiſtants took from him four Horſes, as they were going to plow, worth* 18 l. *and one of the Bailiff's Men cryed,* We muſt have 20 l. worth of Goods, for we muſt

must sell Good Penny-worths: *so they took Two Cows more, valued at* 8 l. 10 s. *in all to the value of* 26 l. 10 s. *for* 13 l. 6 s. 8 d. *demanded.*

John Prime *of* Willbrom-parvo, *had taken from him upon the* 2d *day of the* 9th *moneth, for* 13 l. 6 s. 8 d. *demanded by* John Curby *Bailiff, for Two Thirds of* 20 l. *a year of his Estate, four Cows and one Horse, worth* 18 l.

And the Bailiffs have Warrants in their hands to make seizure of many more in this County.

We therefore entreat your Patience, who are in Power, to peruse the following Account, and take it into your serious Considerations, to afford the Sufferers some effectual and speedy Relief, by stopping these Oppressions, Unchristian and Inhumane Proceedings for the future, that we and our Families, who are the Sufferers herein specified, may not be utterly destroyed, but enjoy our Liberties and Rights in the peaceable Exercise of our tender Consciences, wherein we are accountable to God, and desire alwayes to approve our selves in all good Conscience and Innocency under the Government.

Sufferers

SUFFERERS in and about the Town of *Lewes*, in the County of *SUSSEX*, only for their Peaceable Meetings, & Exercise of their Consciences in the Worship of God; Chiefly carryed on Against them by *William Snat*, Priest, and Surrogat to the Court called, *Court Christian*; and *James Clark*, Register to the same Court.

UPon the 5th day of the 8th Moneth, 1675. *William Snat* priest, accompanied with two other Priests, and one *Robert Smith* a Taylor, went to a peaceable Meeting of the aforesaid People, the said *William Snat* and *Robert Smith* being the Informers, they took the Names of several that assembled, and went to *Henry Shully* called a Justice, and swore against several persons for being at the said Meeting at the house of *Thomas Mosely*, which was utterly false, for it was not *T. Mosely*'s house, and also against a Preacher, his Name unknown, for which *Thomas Mosely* was fined 20 l. and the Preacher 20 l. which Fine for the Preacher the Justice laid upon *Nicholas Beard* of *Rottenden* 10 l. and for himself 5 s. and 3 l. more upon *Thomas Mosely*, and upon *Mary Akehurst* Widdow 7 l. 5 s. and upon

Ambros-

Ambroſe Galloway for his Wife being there 5 s. and upon *Elizabeth Shuter* 5 s. and upon ſome other Perſons five ſhillings apiece.

Upon the 10th day of the 8th moneth, 1675. *James Clark* ſeeing he could make ſuch Profit to himſelf by being an Informer, he took up the Trade, with his Brother *William Snat* the Prieſt, who went to a Meeting of the aforeſaid People, and brought with them *Ferdinando Bryant* and *John Delves* Conſtables of *Lewes*, who took ſeveral Perſons Names, and went to *Richard Bridger* Juſtice, where the ſaid *James Clark*, *William Snat* and *Walter Jones* gave Information of a Meeting in the Houſe of *Mary Galloway* (mark it was in the ſame Houſe which Prieſt *Snat* ſwore but five dayes before to be the Houſe of *Thomas Moſely*, and now ſwears it to be the Houſe of *Mary Galloway*, although there was no alteration concerning the ſaid Houſe) for which *Tho. Moſely* was fined 9 l. 15 s. and *Ambroſe Galloway* fined 9 l. 10 s. and for himſelf and Wife 15 s. and *Mary Akehurſt* 25 s. and *Samuel Baker* 6 l. 13 s. 4 d. and *Steven Eager* 6 l. 13 s. 4 d. and ſeveral other Perſons for being at the ſaid Meeting were fined 5 s. apiece, which ſaid fines *J. Clark* Informer levied himſelf, that he might the better feather his Neſt, for 10 l. 5 s. demanded of *Amb. Galloway* of *Lewes* he took Goods to the value of 14 l. 15 s. and from *Thomas Moſely* for 9 l. 15 s. demanded he took Goods to the value of 12 l. 6 s. 8 d. the 20 l. for the Houſe impoſed for the firſt Meeting being not then levied; and from *Mary Akehurſt*, a Widdow, that hath Five Children, for two fines, being both 8 l. 10 s. took Goods to the value of 16 l 18 s. 10 d. and from *Elizabeth Shuter* Widdow he took two Looking-glaſſes for 5 s. demanded; from *Samuel Baker*, a Blackſmith at *Newhaven*, for 6 l. 18 s. 4 d. fine, was taken half a Tun of Iron which coſt 7 l. odd money.

Upon the 17th day of the 8th Moneth, 1675. ſome of the aforeſaid People being met together at the ſame Houſe as aforeſaid, in their uſual manner in *Lewes*, came *James Clark*, *William Snat* and *William Purſer* Informers, with the aforeſaid Conſtables, and a Lieutenant, and an Enſigne, and two Sarjeants

Sarjeants belonging to the Militia, and alſo a great number of rude People of the baſer ſort, who with great Violence dragg'd them out of the Meeting-houſe, abuſing many, drawing them in the Streets, kicking, bruiſing and beating many, and from ſome there was Blood drawn, and chiefly by the Hands of *James Clark* aforeſaid, whoſe Beaſt-like behaviour cauſed many of the Spectators to cry Shame of him; this being done, the aforeſaid Informers went to *Niſal Rivers* Juſtice, & gave Information againſt ſeveral that were there aſſembled; and the ſaid Juſtice impoſed by his Warrant theſe Fines following; upon *John Songhurſt* for preaching 20 l. upon the Houſe 20 l. to be levied as followeth; upon *Ambroſe Galloway* for the Houſe 4 l. and for himſelf and other Perſons 2 l. 5 s. all being 6 l. 5 s. for the which *James Clark* took Goods from the ſaid *Ambroſe* to the value of 18 l. 7 s. it being chiefly Linnen Cloth, never meaſuring any, the ſaid *Ambroſe* not being at home when he thus rifled his Shop, but afterwards got leave from the Man of the Houſe where the Goods were lodged, to meaſure ſo much as he ſhewed him, the value of which is above expreſſed, never returning any thing again. *Thomas Moſely* being fined 2 l. which *James Clark* demanded, with 3 l. more for a former Fine, the whole being 5 l. he took Goods to the value of 12 l. 5 s. *John Ellis* being fined 4 l. the ſaid *Clark* took Goods to the value of 7 l. 8 s. *Thomas Bud*, a poor Shepherd, being fined 25 s. the aforeſaid *Clark* forced into his Houſe, he being not at home, and took away nine pieces of Pewter, ten Cheeſes, a Pottage-pot, a Skillat, a Frying-pan, a Bucket, with ſome other things, his Bed very hardly eſcaping, he wanting the Tick to carry away the Pillage in, but eſpying a Sack, took that, and the Bed eſcaped his hands From *Tho. Robaſon*, a Felt-maker, being fined 20 s. the ſaid *Clark* took eight Hats. *Mary Akehurſt* fined 10 s. *Clark* took Goods to the value of 18 s. *Maskall Picknal* being fined 5 s. [mark] the ſaid *Clark* without any Officer with him (that he might the better cover his Cruelty) took four Roles of Linnen Cloth, without meaſuring any, and refuſed to let them ſee it meaſured. *Steven*

Menard and his Brother *Nicholas Menard* were fined 5 s. a-piece, for the which was Goods taken to the value of 24 s. *Henry Geats* for a fine of 5 s. had taken from him a great Bráss Kettle. *Richard* and *John Seraſe* fined 50 s. apiece; *Edward Paine* 20 s. *Samuel Web* 20 s. *Thomas Banks* 20 s. theſe laſt Fines being not yet levied, and alſo ſeveral other Perſons being fined, of which we can give no Account, becauſe *Clark* doth refuſe to let us have a Copy of the Warrant.

Upon the 24th day of the aforeſaid 8th moneth, ſome of the aforeſaid People being peaceably met together, came *Ja. Clark*, *Will. Snat* and *William Purſer* Informers, accompanyed with the Conſtables and about twelve Soldiers in Arms with their Officer as aforeſaid belonging to the Militia, without any Regard to their Sabbath-Day, they drew Friends out of the Meeting-houſe, abuſing many with Blows and cruel Punches, and ſet a Guard at the Houſe door to keep them out; then the aforeſaid *Clark* demanded of *Mary Galloway* a fine of 5 s. for the which he took ſeventeen new Deal Formes, that coſt near 3 l. which Forms were not the Goods of *Mary Galloway*, and loaded away ſome of the Soldiers with theſe Forms, to carry them along the Town whither he did direct; and when many of the People and Conſtables were gone, the ſaid *Clark* commanded one of the Soldiers to break open the Door of the Houſe, that he might uſe his Will, there being none but two Maids in the Houſe: thus did they continue for the ſpace of four Weeks with Guards of Soldiers, to keep out the Meeting from their own Houſe, in the Street, in the Winter Seaſon: Alſo the ſaid *Clark* did upon one of the Firſt Dayes afore-mentioned, demand another Fine of 5 s. of *Mary Galloway*, for the which he took a new Settle and five Deal Boards, worth 20 s. which were not the Goods of *Mary Galloway*.

Upon Information given on Oath by *Thomas Levet* Prieſt, *Michael Harmer* Smith, and *George Shepherd*, Taylor Informers, on the 5th day of the 7th Moneth, 1676. to *Sackvil Graves*, called Juſtice; that ſeveral Perſons whom theſe Informers,

formers named, were at a Meering at the House of *William Tokehurst* in the Parish of *Westfurle* near *Lewes* in *Sussex*, upon the 23th day of the Moneth called *July*, for which the said Justice fined *Clement Pickneil* for preaching at the said Meeting 40 l. and *William Tokehurst* for suffering the Meeting in his House 20 l. and he fined thirty one Persons, as being present hearers, some 10 s. and some 5 s. apiece; and to be levied as followeth, by reason of the poverty of some, has expressed in the Warrant, upon *Ambrose Galloway* 10 l. 10 s. and upon *Mary Akehurst* 10 l. upon *John Ellis* 10 l. upon *Thomas Weekes* 9 l. 10 s. and on *John Abrook* 9 l. 10 s. and on *John Longly* 8 l. 10 s. and upon *William Tokehurst* 50 s. and upon *Maskall Picknell* 5 l. and on *Samuel Baker* 45 s. and upon *Richard Hudson* 5 s. and for the poverty of Ten other Persons 5 s. apiece all to be levied upon *Richard Hudson*, the whole fine being 2 l. 15 s. for which fine the Constable and some other Officers took from *Richard Hudson* a Cow and Calfe worth 4 l. 5 s. *Richard Hudson* knowing that the aforesaid Informers had Sworn falsly, and several persons that were laid upon him were not there, brought his appeal and prosecuted it at the Sessions, where, and before the Court, it did appear that these Informers had Sworn falsly, four persons in the number of Ten, for the which *Richard Hudson* had 20 s. returned him back again by the Sheriff for the four persons they had sworn falsly against, *One of the four they swore to be present at the Meeting, was dead six Years before.* The aforesaid Appeal being tried before seven Justices of the Peace in open Court, yet never a one did give any Reproof to these false Informers for these their false Oaths.

For a Meeting at *Lewes* the 12th day of the 7th moneth, 76. several of the aforesaid People were fined by *William Spence* Justice, upon the Information of *Walter Jones* and *William Purser* Informers, for two Preachers 40 l. and for several Persons as Hearers, 5 s. apiece, to be levied as followeth, Upon *Ambrose Galloway* 10 l. 5 s. upon *John Ellis* 10 l. 5 s. upon *Thomas Moseley* 10 l. 5 s. and upon *Henry Strase* 10 l. 5 s. and upon some other Persons 5 s. apiece.

So that the total of the Fines that have been imposed upon

the

the aforesaid People for their peaceable Meetings in the Worship of God, from the 5th day of the 8th moneth, 1675. to the 12th day of the 7th moneth, 1676. doth amount to 252 l. 15 s. besides the Unreasonable Havock the aforesaid *Clark* hath made upon Goods as before related.

The 29th of the 9th Moneth, 1676. *Edward Howel* of *Willington* Constable, accompanied with *Richard Whiting*, *Samuel Munger*, *John Bet* and *Robert Garet* of *Westfurl*, did take a Mare worth 8 l., out of the Stable of *Maskal Picknel* of *Willington* for a Fine of 5 l. 15 s. imposed on the said *Maskal* for being at a Meeting at *Westfurl*, the 23d of the 5th Moneth 1676. by *Sackvill Graves* called Justice; 20 s. of the said Fine being imposed on him for two others, to wit, *Thomas Banks* and *Sibble Pain* of *Bishopston*, although the said *Sibble Pain* was not at the Meeting.

Upon the 26th Day of the 10th Moneth 1676. *George Ty* and *Thomas Turle* Constables of the Town of *Lewes*, and *James Clark* Overseer for the poor, and *Edward Strudwick* Steeple-house Warden, came with a Warrant given forth by *William Spence* Justice, upon an Information of *George Jones* and *William Purser* Informers, that *Ambrose Galloway* was at a Meeting or Conventicle in *Lewes*, where were two Preachers, their Names unknown therefore the said Justice did impose upon *Ambrose Galloway* for the Preacher, 10 l. and for himself, 5 s. Upon the Day aforesaid, the Officers aforesaid came into the Shop that had been the Shop of *Ambrose Galloway*, but then in the Tenure and Occupation of *Ambrose Galloway* the Son of *Ambrose Galloway*, who was not at the Meeting, as charged; for the which Fine the Officers broke open the Counter and a Press in the Shop of the said *Ambrose*, and took away Mens Coats and Breeches, and Childrens Coats, and other Goods to the Value of 20 l. 5 s. 11 d. the said *Ambrose* being by Trade a Salesman.

The Witnesses Names that saw *Thomas Mosely*'s first Parcel of Goods distrained, which was done the 28th of the 8th Moneth, 75. are,

George Shelton and *Thomas Walter*.

The

The Names of those which saw the second Parcel distrained from *Thomas Mosely*, which was done the 1st of the 2d moneth, 76. are,

Mary Ford, *Benjamin Mosely* and *Mary Galloway*.

About the 9th Moneth, 75. *Ambrose Galloway* of *Lewes* was cited to the Bishops Court, held in *Lewes*, to appear three days after citation; *Amb. Galloway* did appear accordingly at the Time and Place, and there was no Court held that day; some time after this Court decreed Excommunication against the said *Ambrose*, never sending him any other, whereby he might certainly know when there was a Court kept, that he might make his just Defence, but forth-with denounceth him Excommunicated, and about the 26th day of the 9th moneth, 76. the aforesaid Bishop sendeth forth a *Capiendo* to carry the said *Ambrose Galloway* to Prison for a Contempt.

SUFFERINGS in and about the City of *HEREFORD*.

ON the 20th of the 6th moneth, 1676. the People of God being met together at their Meeting-house, being in the Subburbs of the City of *Hereford* to worship the God of Heaven according to their usual manner, in Spirit and in Truth, one *John Rea* (as they heard) went and informed *Henry Caldicott*, then Mayor of the City, of the Meeting, who with several other Officers came unto the Meeting, and after some words warned them, *not to meet any more*, and said, *if they did, let it be at their Peril*, and so went away.

Upon the 27th of the same moneth, they being in like manner peaceably Assembled together again, there came unto them

them many Boyes out of the City in a Riotous manner, throwing Stones and Dirt into the Meeting.

On the 3d of the 7th Moneth next after, being also the first day of the Week, they were peaceably met again to worship God, then came Boyes, and Girles, and Young People to a great number, in the same Riotous manner, and throng'd in and about the Meeting, and became so abusive unto them beyond all Humanity, so as to sling their Hats at their Faces, using all the filthy deriding words towards them they could invent to utter, and with their Staves some of them would strike off many of their Hats off their Heads, of both Men and Women, and sometimes striking some upon their Heads with their Staves, and sometimes justling against them, and throwing Stones amongst them, and brake some of the Glass-windows, and turned in Dogs into the Meeting, oftentimes bidding them *speak by the spirit*, and then making a Noise with *Hooping* and *Hollowing*; and some of them fastened Burs to some of the Men's Hair; and as they sought to force a Pig into the Meeting amongst them, it happening to be a Pig of *John Roe's*, who on that day two Weeks before was said to inform the Mayor of the Meeting, and he seeking to drive his own Pig from them, one of the unruly Young Men broke his Head with a Stone, which was the new-elected Mayor's Son, as 'twas said.

On the next first Day being the 10th of the 7th Moneth, the aforesaid People were again assembled together in their usual religious Manner, and in a short Space the Street before the House, became filled with People, young & old; & many young Men and Boyes came in upon them, riotously as before, and threw their Hats at and amongst them, and fired Squibs, and threw amongst them, and then throwing Stones against the Glass Windows, stroke a Woman, as she was sate within the Room, on the side of her Head with a Stone: But seeing them so outragious, and desperately cruel, some of the Meeting went to the *Mayor* to signifie their Doings unto him, who became somewhat displeased at the Matter, and also they went to

Abraham

Abraham Seward an Attorney at Law, the New Elected *Mayor*, whose Son was one of the Leaders of the turbulent Company in their Actings, to acquaint him of his Son, who seemed to be ignorant of his Son's Doings, yet somewhat threatned the Persons that went to him, with the Execution of the Law upon them; & because some of the Lads belonged to the Free-School in *Hereford*, one of the Meeting went to the chief Master of the School about them, who presently came and took Notice of as many as he could find; for many of them dispersed at his coming, they having by that time beaten the Glass-Windows to pieces with Stones and Staves; but it was said by some, he was forbidden to correct them, and that the Colledge-Priests should set them on, and say, they would bear them out in what they did; and some of the unruly Boyes were *Quitters*.

On the 14th Day of the 7th Moneth they were peaceably met together again to serve the living God, and assoon as they departed many rude Boyes came running to find them there, and some of them said, if they had met with them, they would have done their work for them, and fell again upon the glass-windows breaking them.

On the 16th Day following two Friends went to *Robert Simonds* and *Thomas Simonds*, Justices for the City, to let them know of the several riotous Assemblies, and the Abuses done upon them, who not at all regarded their Complaint, but the said *Robert Simonds* did endeavour to force some Confession of a Meeting from one of them, and then protested, if he had confessed, he would immediately have fined him; then the Friend asked him, what if it should please God to suffer another Religion to be set up with Authority in this Nation, would he not think it an unreasonable thing to be forced from, or punished for his Religion he now professeth? He answering said, he should not, but would be subject to the Government; and after said to some others, as we were credibly informed, that if the Friend had but confessed a Meeting, he would presently have arrested his Horses he had then in the Town; and also said, the *Quakers* were well helpt up to come with Complaints to them.

On the 17th Day after, it being the first Day of the Week, the aforesaid People were peaceably assembled again to worship God, after some time the rude Company of Boyes & young People came unto them in the former riotous manner, many of them having Sticks and Staves in their Hands, and they threw their Hats, and Dirt, and Stones amongst them, and Squibs, and burned some of their Clothes; and when Friends departed, the Door of the House being locked, they passing away, saw the Master of the School coming hastily again to seek after his Schollars, which many of them perceiving, hid themselves from him, and he said unto Friends, that it was not fitting that Boyes should be suffered to abuse them as they did, yet soon after the rude Company became more unruly then before; for they totally brake down the Glass-Windows that remained, and as many of the Pillars thereof as they could, with some of the Walls of the House, and entered in and broke the Benches and Seats they found therein; and brake open an inner Door with other things they could meet with; and some Boyes followed after some Friends of the Countrey with hooping and hollowing, and throwing of Stones after them, about a quarter of a Mile; and it was commonly said, that the Master of the School going about to correct some of his Schollars for their Abuses towards Friends, they made such a Resistance against him, as violently to throw him over a Bench, and giving him threatning Words, they being so emboldned in ill Practices; and when several sober People of the City, that saw or heard of the Doings of the rude Company, crying out against them, they would threaten them; and one man, because he reproved them, was forced to take up Stones in his Hands to defend himself from them

The 18th Day of the 7th Moneth, 1676 there being a Meeting in *Hereford* of the aforesaid People, to enquire into the Necessities of the poor, the Widows and Fatherless Children, that they that are able to work may be imployed, and assisted to get their own livelihood, but if unable, then to be relieved, and the Fatherless and Helpless Children to be set out Apprentices, which is acceptable Service to God, and great Benefit to the

whole

whole Nation, againſt which work there is no Law, nor ought to be; for it is the Command of God, *To do good unto all, but eſpecially to the Houſhold of Faith.*

And in Obedience to God and his Truth they came together to do this eſpecial Good to the Houſhold of Faith, and being peaceably met together in their ſhattered Meeting Houſe, and after ſome time was ſpent in the Service of Truth, there came a great Company of rude tumultuous Boyes, many of them in a Riotous Manner with Staves, Sticks and long Splints of Wood in their Hands, and ſurrounding the Houſe, and one of them ſounding a Horn, there came a great Company of People of ſeveral Sorts; then the Boyes began to throw their Hats, Dirt and Stones into the Meeting, and hurt ſome; and uttering abominable, filthy, reviling Words and deriding Speeches againſt the Spirit of God, and his Worſhip; one of them came within the Door, and breaking Wind backward ſaid, *The Spirit moved him*, and ſo the brutiſh rude Company fell to laughing, and ſhouting, and throwing of Stones through the broken Walls and Windows into the Houſe; and ſome threw in Excrements upon Friends Clothes, and then got upon the Houſe and untiled part of the Houſe, and ſeeing a Friend coming into the Houſe, they tumbled down ſome of the Stones upon his Head, and ſo continued breaking the Houſe for ſome time, and broke down the Pale with the young Vines about the Houſe.

And a Friend in the Meeting ſeeing their Wickedneſs, was conſtrained to bear his Teſtimony againſt them, exhorting Friends to Patience, and the tumultuous rude Company to Moderation (who like the *Sodomites* about juſt *Lot*'s Houſe, encompaſſed them about in their cruel Enmity) leſt the Lord bring ſome ſweeping Judgement upon them and the City.

Then ſoon after came ſome of the Magiſtrates of the City, namely *Edward King* and *Robert Simonds* Juſtices, with *Abraham Seward* the Elected Mayor for the Year to come, an Attorney at Law, whoſe Coming was not at all to appeaſe and ſcatter the Riot and Rage of the People, but to execute their own and the Prieſts Envy and Cruelty againſt Friends, which firſt appeared in the Boyes and rude Multitude, and then manifeſted

nifested it self in their Proceedings; The said *Edward King* Juſtice, firſt entring the Houſe, ſaid in a vain, light, ſcoffing Spirit, *What be ye? Quakers, or Shakers, or Candleſtick-makers?* And then asked, who was the Speaker? ſome of the Boyes ſaid, ſuch a one; then *Abraham Seward* with the two Juſtices urged him to take the Oaths of *Allegiance* and *Supremacy*, and did the like to the reſt of the men, taking their Names, with the Names of the Women, and then calling for the Conſtables and other Officers to take the Men to Priſon, being eight in Number, and threatned to fine the Women with him that the Boyes ſaid, ſpake, and for the Houſe alſo; then they took away the eight Men to the *Town-Hall* or Market Houſe, and in their Paſſage along with the Magiſtrates, *Abraham Seward* the Elected Mayor ſaid, *They ſhould never meet there*, and had often ſpake it before, and words to that Purpoſe in a preſumptuous Spirit.

And a Friend going with him ſaid, *We are a People gathered by the Power of the Lord, and therefore the Power of Man cannot ſcatter us*: Then he replyed, and ſaid, *I will break your Meetings.*

So then they came to the Town hall, and there they tendred the *Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy* to them, who anſwering, ſaid, *We are* Chriſtians, *therefore cannot break the Command of Chriſt to ſweer at all; but to render juſt and lawful Allegiance to the King, do not deny nor refuſe.* Notwithſtanding this their Anſwer, they made a Mittimus, and ſent them to Priſon.

About the next day after they were impriſoned, one *Walter Rogers* a Prebend walking by the Meeting houſe, and obſerving how it was broken and torn with the Rude Company, ſaid to ſome as he paſſed, *That they were Very Good Boyes, and had done their Work Better then he thought they had.*

On the 24th of the 7th moneth, being the firſt day of the Week, Friends were aſſembled again to wait upon God, many Rude Boyes came unto them, and threw their Hats at them, one of them pulling a Woman by her Chin, and pocking Friends with their Staves through the Windows; and when

Friends

Friends departed, many of the Boyes followed ſome of them a pretty way, throwing Stones after them, uſing many Taunting and Deriding VVords againſt God's Holy Spirit and Worſhip.

The Names of ſuch men who were preſent at the Meeting at *Hereford*, and were Eye-VVitneſſes of the Riotous Doings of the Rude Multitude, and the Proceedings of the Magiſtrates againſt the Meeting, the 18th Day of the 7th Moneth, 1676. who are now Priſoners in *Eyſters*-Gate in *Hereford*, are as followeth:

Roger Prichard,
Henry Price, } of *Amely*.
William Oven,

Morgan Watkins,
Charles Barnet, } of *Leominſter*.
Conſtantine Young

James Exton,
Robert Woodliffe } of *Hereford*.

The Names of ſome more of the Men Friends belonging to *Hereford*, who were alſo Eye-witneſſes of the Riotous Doings and ſeveral Proceedings done againſt Friends at the ſeveral Meetings before-mentioned, are as followeth:

John Barber, *James Eckley*,
John Carver, *Nathaniel Powles*.

The

The 1st of the 8th Moneth, 1676. the aforesaid People were peaceably met to worship the God of their Lives, many Rude Boyes and Young People came about them, and many of them fell to throwing of Stones through the Windows they had broke before; and one of them stroke a Woman Friend on her Head with a Stone; and some of them through a Window did cast their Urin upon the peoples Heads; and as a Man sate somewhat nigh to a Window, one of the Boyes reached through, and took his Hat off his Head, and put Excrements therein, and threw it in again amongst them; and some of them, in their vain deriding manner, with bawling Words, would Act preaching, and oftentimes used Shouting.

The 22th of the said Moneth, being again assembled peaceably together to worship God, being also the first day of the VVeek, soon after came Serjeants, Constables and other Officers of the City, and forced Friends along with them to come before *Abraham Seward* Mayor of the City, who kept them at a certain place till the Mayor came from his Worship, and after a while caused them to be discharged.

The 29th of the same Moneth they were again met together in their peaceable usual manner, then came many of the Officers and Constables of the City, and forced them out of the House, and kept them out, taking two Men along with them, namely, *James Exeon* and *John Carver*, and brought them before the Mayor, *Edward King*, *Robert Simonds* and *Thomas Payner*, Justices; the Mayor called to *John Jones* and *Christopher Jones* two of his Serjeants, and *Thomas Luggon* a Constable, to inform of the Meeting, when, after they had sworn them, one of the Friends spake unto them, *To take good heed, and not to forswear themselves, as some of the Officers did aforetime, in accusing Persons to be present at a Meeting, when they were not*; yet presently after they informed against one *Mary Carver* for being at the Meeting; and as they were setting her Name in the Warrant or Conviction, one of the Men seeing their Wilfulness therein, told them, That *Mary Carver was not then there*: Therefore it is to be seen, whose Hearts

Hearts are bent to Cruelty, how little regard they have to their Oaths. Then one of the two Friends asked the Informers, *Wherein they had right Knowledge, that it was a Meeting exercising Religion?* To which they gave no Answer; but the Mayor said, *It was no matter for that; will you swear to the contrary?* and withal they tendred them the *Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy*, and because they could not (with good Conscience) swear at all, they committed them to Prison till the next Assize; and told them, *They should have but Straw to lie on*; and commanded the Goaler, *To put them apart, one from the other.*

The 12th of the 9th Moneth following, being also the first day of the Week, the shattered Meeting-house being then somewhat repaired, and an Inhabitant dwelling therein, Friends were there met again to wait upon the Lord, there came many Boyes and Young Men again, and beset the House, and threw Stones against it, and they were forbidden by the Inhabitant thereof, who told them, *It was his Dwelling-house*, yet they violently brake open a Window, being made very fast, with Boards well nailed, and there came the Mayor's Officers, and one of them encouraged the rude Company to Untyle the House, and one —— *Holley* a Servant to *John Hipps* a chief Constable in the City, said, *That the Mayor's Officers, the Serjeants, told the Rude Company, That they should knock out the* Quakers *Brains if they would not depart.* And the Officers came, and forced Friends out of the House, and in the Evening many Rude Boyes came again, and told the said Inhabitant, *They would pull down the House upon his Head*, using many Abusive Words against them, and stroke a Girle with a Stone.

Some of those that were Eye-Witnesses to the afore-mentioned Proceedings:

John Barber, *Elizabeth Barber*,
James Exton, *Elizabeth Exton*,
John Carver, *Mary Carver*,
Diana Thomas.

On

On the 3d of the 10th moneth, 1676. the aforesaid People were assembled together to worship the Lord in their usual peaceable manner, at the City of *Hereford*, then came the Mayor's Officers, and turned them out of the House, and brought one *John Barber* before *Abraham Seward* Mayor, *Henry Caldicot* and *Thomas Payner* Justices, who tendred to him the *Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy*, and because he could not in good Conscience swear at all, committed him to Prison till the next Assizes.

And on the 7th day following, the said *John Barber* had taken from him Goods worth 25 s. for 16 s. demanded for not going to the Steeple-house, and then also the said *John Barber*, had Goods seized worth 26 l. for a fine of 10 l. demanded, and imposed upon him for the House where the Meeting was, by Warrant under the Hands of *Robert Simonds* and *Edward King* Justices.

And on the 10th of the 11th moneth following, then was taken from the said *John Barber*, dwelling in the Parish of *Nicholas*, Goods worth 14 s. for the demand of 12 s. for not going to the Steeple-house. And then also was taken from *John Carver* of the City and Parish aforesaid Goods worth 7 s. for 4 s. demanded for the same Cause.

Edward Price, *Thomas Gwillim*, } Wardens.

Giles Eackes, *Evan Thomas*, } Overseers.

Thomas Gough, Petty-Constable.

John Hipps, Chief-Constable.

Richard Phillpotts, Assistant.

James Exton, *John Carver* and *John Barber* do remain Prisoners in *Hereford*-City Prison, upon refusing to take the *Oath*, being committed until the next Assizes.

John Haines and *James Robbins*, both of *Boddenham*, are continued Prisoners by the Writ *Excommunicato Capiendo*, for

for Contempt of the Bishops Court (as is said) being committed to the County Goal the 23d of the seventh Moneth, 1676.

On the 20th of the 11th moneth, 1676. the aforesaid People were then met again, in their usual manner, to worship the Lord, then came the Mayor's Officers and forced them away, not suffering them to abide in the open Street thereabout; and one of the Officers, a Serjeant, called *John Jones*, said unto them, *They would Fire the House where they met, and broyle them therein.*

Dansey Gwillim and *Henry Iuliar*, with others can witness the same; these Witnesses are no *Quakers*.

Thomas Holt of *Wickton* in the Parish of *Leominster* committed to Prison the 18th day of the 7th moneth, 1674. and still remains a Prisoner for small Tythes and Easter-Reckonings to the value of Eight Groats demanded.

Nathaniel Smith of *Leominster* committed to Prison the 11th day of the 11th moneth, 1676. from the Quarter-Sessions, because for Conscience sake he could not Swear.

SUFFERERS in the County of *Leicester*.

THe 10th day of the 1st Moneth, 1673. *Samuel Harper* of *Harborough* was arrested with a Bishops Writ, for not going to the Steeple house, and there still remaineth a Prisoner at the Suit of *Matthew Bent* Priest.

Thomas Dash of *Hindly* Labouring-man, taken to Prison by a Bishop's Writ, at the Suit of *George Naylor* Priest of the same, for refusing to pay small *Tythes*; *Anthony Wells* and

Leonard

Leonard Gaſway Bailiffs, took him to Priſon from his aged Wife the 24th of the 11th Moneth, 1674. where he ſtill remaineth.

The 26th of the 7th Moneth, 1674. *John Marriot* Joyner, and *William Parker* Carpenter of *Long-claxton*, alias *Clanſon*, were taken by a Warrant from *Thomas Stavley* and *Thomas Beamont*, called Juſtices, directed to *Thomas Faux* Conſtable, and brought before them to give in ſufficient Sureties to anſwer the Suit of *John Reay* Vicar of the ſame Town, they refuſing were ſent to Priſon by a Statute made the 27th of *Henry* the 8th: The Prieſt demands of *John Marriot* 5 s. 6 d. *per Annum*, and of *William Parker* 3 s. they both remaining Priſoners from their Wives and ſmall Children.

The laſt day of the 12th moneth, 1674. *Thomas Followes* of *Whetſtone* committed to Priſon by the ſaid *Thomas Stavley* and *Thomas Beamont*, upon the ſame Statute, for refuſing to become bound to anſwer the Suit of *Thomas Robeſon* Prieſt, in a Cauſe of Tythes, his Demand about five ſhillings and ſix pence *per annum*; and yet remaineth a Priſoner from his Wife and Family.

The 18th of the 1ſt moneth, 1676. *George Power* of *Swanington* in the Pariſh of *Whitweek*, was taken by *Samuel Sterkey* of *Aſhbydelazouch* at the Suit of *John Brintnal* Prieſt, in a Caſe of ſmall Tythes, part of which was demanded by a former Prieſt more then one half, and ſince he was Priſoner this *John Brintnall* hath taken a Lamb out of his Fold, and he ſtill remaineth a Priſoner.

The 2d Moneth, 1676. *William Tuninges* of *Syleby* Shepherd, was ſubpœned into the Exchequer by *Richard Sanders* Impropriator, and for not appearing was caſt into Priſon for ſmall Tythes, to the value of 3 s. 4 d. and there continues.

The 1ſt of the 5th Moneth, 1676. *Samuel Brown* of *Leiceſter* Apothecary, was taken by a Biſhop's Writ for not coming to the Steeple-Houſe, by *Anthony Wells* and *Leonard Gaſway* of *Leiceſter* Bailiffs, about the Tenth Hour at Night in his Bed, and ſtill remains a Priſoner.

The

The 13th of the 8th moneth, 1676. *John Johnſon* of *Northkilworth* Shepherd, taken by a Biſhop's Writ for not coming to the Steeple-houſe by *Leonard Gaſway* and *Anthony Wells* of *Leiceſter* Bailiffs, and *John Jackſon* of *Humberſton* Bailiff, where he remaineth a Priſoner, being the chief Guide of his Mother's Buſineſs, ſhe be being aged about Eighty.

The 24th of the 8th Moneth, 1676. *John Wilsford* late of *Nether-Broughton*, Jerſey-Comber, taken by a *Biſhop's Writ* for not going to the *Steeple-Houſe*, by *Leonard Gaſway* and *Anthony Wells* of *Leiceſter*, *John Jackſon* of *Humberſtone*, and *Henry Bunnes* of *Melton-Mowbray* an old Informer, and the reſt Bailiffs, took him out of a peaceable Meeting in *Long-Clauſon*; the before-ſaid *Henry Bunnes* broke the Meeting Houſe Windows, tore a Woman Friend's Hood, ſtroke an old Woman-Friend on the Breaſt, hurled Ale in *John Wilsford*'s Face; he ſtill remaineth a Priſoner from his Wife and ſmall Children, near 40. Miles in *Leiceſter* County Goal, their Livelihood chiefly depending upon his Hand-Labour.

The 28th of the 11th Moneth, 1676. *Daniel Fox* of *Thruſſington* was taken by a *Biſhop's Writ* for not coming to the *Steeple-Houſe* by *Leonard Gaſway* of *Leiceſter*, and *John Jackſon* of *Humberſtone*, and there continues.

The 19th of the 4th Moneth, 1676. Sufferers for meeting to worſhip God.

The 22d of the 1ſt Moneth, 1675. Taken from *John Swann* of *Little-Peatling* for being at a peaceable Meeting at *William Well's* of *Knighton*, upon the 20th of the 4th Moneth, 1675. by a Warrant from *Thomas Beamont* called Juſtice, was fined 50 s. for which Fine he had a Cow taken from him to the Value of near 4 l. by *John Marriot* Conſtable, and *Francis Pearce* Informer; the Conſtable confeſſed that he ſold the Cow for 3 l. but nothing was returned again.

For the ſame Meeting *Michael Woodcock* and *John Warden* had each of them a Cow taken from them, for 50 s. Fine a piece.

The 5th of the 1st Moneth, 1675. taken from *William Wells* of *Knighton*, by a Warrant from *Thomas Beamont* called Justice, *Charles Gibbins* of *Kimcoat*, and *Francis Pearce* of *Armsby* Informers, for having a peaceable Meeting at his House, upon the 20th of the 4th Moneth, 1675. Seven Milch and Incalved Beasts, to the Value of near 30 l. *Joseph Pipin* and *Richard Ing* Church-Wardens, and *William Ward* Overseer of the poor, the Fine 20 l.

Samuel Brown of *Leicester Apothecary*, being at a peaceable Meeting at *William Well's* of *Knighton*, *Charles Gibin's* of *Waltham Kimcoats*, Corporal to the *Militia*, and *Francis Percy* of *Armsby*, *Militia-Soldier*, informed Justice *Beamont* so called, of *Stonsen-Grange* near *Leicester*, of the same, whose Readiness to assist them in their Ungodly Designs was publickly manifest, insomuch that he granted out Warrants against several for that Meeting, directing one to *John Brown* Constable of the *Bishop Fee*, against *Samuel Brown*, to distrain of his Goods to the Value of 5 l. 5 s. 5 l. for the Poverty of the Preacher, the rest for his own Offence, as they call it; the aforesaid Constable wanting Opportunity to make Distress, was much threatned by the Justice to be distrained of for neglect of his Office, receiving another Warrant to distrain for 6 l. 5 s. for the same Meeting. Now the Constable of *Gilmorton* having distrained of Friends there by a Warrant from the said Justice for the same Meeting, and the Constable, Informer and other Officers expending part of the Money which the Warrant expressed, he did 20 s. more upon the said *Samuel Brown* (there he broke that Law, because he levied more upon *Samuel Brown*, being no Poverty could be supposed) and the Justice to some said, *That he acted for Fear of the Penalty of* 100 l. calling the Sufferers *Rebbels*, and said, *They deserved to be punished as such.*

Notwithstanding their and his personal Resolve to distrain, he appearing and receiving Intelligence of Disappointment, one Day he called out in great Rage to the aforesaid S. B. saying, *Brown, you have a Conventicle in your House*; the Reply was, no Persons save our own be at this time in my House, the Justice still rageously saying, *He would break open his Doors to*

see;

set; then actively riding in his own Person from Officer to Officer to get them together to fulfil his wicked desire, at that Juncture of time *Elizabeth Carr* and *Edeth Brown* went to him to inform him that there was no Meeting at that time, and further exhorted him to fear God, and desist from assisting the Informers in these destructive Designs, further declaring unto him, that if he did not, God's Hand of Justice would soon overtake him, and reward him according to his Deeds; to which he replied, *Do you curse me?* and stood up trembling and said, *Get you out of the Room, you disquiet my Spirit*; so they left him, and he coming down with the Informer and other Officers, the People on Heaps being gathered together to see what he would do, finding the Woman of the House standing at the Door with her little Babe, laid Hand upon her, plucking her away in an Uncivil Manner, commanding the Informers to go to the Smiths to borrow Hammers to break open the doors, they being deny'd, still commanded them to threaten the Smiths to lend them upon pain of Imprisonment, they still denyed, saying, *They should not lend them to do their honest Neighbour any harm*; so the Informer was forced to make use of a great Stone to break open the Doors, the Justice entring first said, *They have caried away their Goods*; Reply was made, *No, the Informers have twice taken them away before*; *Have you been so long Rebbels?* said the Justice, *you shall suffer for it*; so he asking who such a Person was, the Reply being, *That he was well acquainted with that Person's Husband formerly, when they together were Officers in* Oliver's *Army*, at which Charge, his Coat appearing so manifestly turned, he retreated his Ground and left it in charge, that they should take enough of the Goods away, and to be further revenged on the said *Samuel Brown*, tendered him the Oath of *Allegiance*, to which he replied, *That active Obedience in this Case being first due to the King of Kings, who said, Swear not, and passive Obedience to the Ordinance of Man for Conscience Sake*; but through the Interest of one of the Officers freely extending to the Justice on the behalf of *Samuel Brown*, was prevalent to divert his malicious Design, as the Justice himself confessed. The Officers re-

returning an Account of what they had taken away, he commanded them saying, *We have spent several Dayes about this, and we had need have more to bear our Charges*, the Constable engaged that what Money was wanting, more then the Goods would amount to, he would make up.

Note, *Charles Gibbins* the first and chief Informer in this County, was found dead off his Horse, going from *Lutterworth* Market, soon after his Information about this Meeting; and the said Justice was in a few weeks after this his wicked Act, by Death cut off. The Goods taken away was Bedding, to the Value of about 8 l. To the Truth of these things, there are many People Witnesses.

Sufferers for Tythes in Long-Clanson, *in the Vale of* Belvire, *in the County of* Leicester.

The 3d. Week of the 5th Moneth, 1676. *John Reay* Vicar or Priest went to the Lands of *William Hanly*, and took to the value of the 5th Part of his Barley, besides 13. Wheat-Sheaves; *John Moor*, *Henry Hebb* and *Robert Wright* let this Part to the Vicar, Witnesses *John Jackson*, *Richard Hanley*.

The 21st of the 5th Moneth, 1676. Taken from *Edward Hallam* about thirty Wheat-Sheaves, by *Thomas Marriot*, *Thomas Hicling* and *George Manchester*.

Taken from *John Dubleday*, by the same three men, to the Value of one Quarter of Wheat and Rye.

The 24th of the 5th Moneth, 1676. Taken again from *John Dubleday*, by the said men, Four Load of Barley.

Taken from *Edward Hallam*, by the said men, and upon the aforesaid Day, Three Loads of Barley.

The 26th of the 5th Moneth, 1676. taken again from *Edward Hallam*, by *George Manchester* the Elder, Two more Loads of Barley.

The 2d of the 6th Moneth, 1676. taken again from *Edward Hallam*, by *George Manchester* the Elder, *Thomas Marriot*, *John Manchester*, and others, Three Loads of Beans and Pease.

Taken

Taken from *John Dubbleday* the ſame day, by *Tho. Hicling* and the others aforeſaid, Three Loads of Peaſe and Beans.

The 30th of the 6th Moneth, 1676. Taken from *Valentine Gregory* by the Prieſt his Wife and her Son, and his Man, and the Clark of the Town, who came into his Orchard, and did get up into the Trees, and broke the Boughs, and did the Trees much Hurt, and carryed away Pears and Apples about Four Strykes.

William Willowes, a poor Man, was caſt into Priſon the 12th of the 1ſt moneth, 1667. from Five of his Children, by *Edward Ward* Prieſt, for ſmall Tythes, and there remained a Priſoner Four Years and upwards; and then, by the ſaid Prieſt, and *Robert Johnſon*, and *William Webſter*, had taken from him the 11th day of the 7th moneth, 1676. one braſs Pan worth 10 s. and four Sheep worth 1 l. 12 s.

Sufferers in *Derby-ſhire* in the Year 1675.

THomas *Holland* in the Pariſh of *Heanor*, for having a Meeting at his Houſe the 3d day of the 8th Moneth, 1675. was fined by *John Lowe*, called Juſtice, 5 l. and had Goods taken from him to the value of 8 l. by *Roger Cheetam* Conſtable, and other Officers.

George Hawley, *Thomas Needam* } Informers.

William Markeall of *Ilſon*, for being at the above-ſaid Meeting, was fined by the ſame Juſtice 5 l. 5 s. and had Goods taken from him to the value of 9 l. 10 s. by *John Gregory* of the ſame Town, Conſtable.

John Hanks fined for being at the ſaid Meeting 5 s. and had Goods taken from him to the value of ſeven ſhillings and ſix pence.

Richard

Richard Maliby fined for being at the ſaid Meeting, 5 s. and had Goods taken from him to the value of 6 s. 8 d. by *Philip Swern* of *Skipley* Conſtable.

Samuel Roe fined 5 s. for his Wife's being at the ſaid Meeting, and had Goods taken from him to the value of Eight Shillings.

John Lynam and *Edward Searſon* fined either of them 5 l. 5 s. for being at the ſaid Meeting, and *John Lynam* fined 5 s. more for his Wife, though ſhe was not at the Meeting, and had Goods taken from them to the value of 10 l. by *John Rowland* Conſtable, and other Officers belonging to the Pariſh of *Pentridge*.

William Wooly and his Wife fined for being at the ſaid Meeting 10 s. and had Goods taken from them to the value of 1 l. 2 s.

Thomas Vallens fined 5 s. for being at the ſaid Meeting, and had his Wages deteined by one of the Officers, he then working for him.

Daniel Bettridge fined 5 s. for his Wife being at the ſaid Meeting, and had Goods taken from him to the value of 8 s.

All this was done by Warrants from *John Lowe*, called Juſtice.

By *George Hawley* } Informers.
Thomas Needam }

Witneſſed by

John Wagſtaff,
William Day,
Luke Hanks.

Joſeph Wats of *Wadſhelf*, in the Pariſh of *Brampton* and County of *Derby*, who could not for Conſcience ſake pay *Richard Mathyman* Prieſt of *Brampton* that which he called his *Dues*, as Tythe-Wool and Lamb, and Eaſter Reckonings, which in the whole did amount unto but about Two Shillings and Six Pence, was ſerved with a Suppœne to appear at

at *London*; and after ſome time was arreſted by *Joſeph Parker* and *William Kirk* of *Cheſterfield* Bailiffs, who would accept of no Bail, but he muſt either pay what the Prieſt demanded or go to Priſon, and becauſe he had not Freedom to pay, they took him to Priſon to *Cheſterfield*, the 9th day of the 7th month, 1675. the Prieſt gave order to the Goaler, *That he ſhould not have Liberty to work*; he was there kept Priſoner above Twenty Two Weeks.

Witneſſed by *Robert Haſlam, Cornelius Arnold, Henry Harvey.*

An Accompt of the Sufferings of the People of God within the County of Derby *in the Year* 1676.

Thomas Farnſworth within the Pariſh of *Heanor* in the ſaid County, for being at a Meeting at *John Lynam's*, was fined 5 s. for himſelf, and 3 l. 15 s. for fifteen unknown Perſons, and had Goods taken from him to the value of 6 l. by *Robert Towe* Officer, by a Warrant from *John Lee* called *Juſtice*, *John Bradley* and *John Bruckshew* Informers.

John Wagſtaff within the pariſh of *Pentridge*, in the ſaid County, for the ſame Meeting was fined five ſhillings for himſelf, and 15 s. for the poverty of three Perſons, by warrant from the ſaid Juſtice, and had Goods taken from him to the value of 1 l. 4 s. by *John Roland* Conſtable, and other Officers, *John Bradly* and *John Bruckshew* informers.

John Lynam for the ſame Meeting was fined 10 s. for his Wife, and *Edward Searſon* 5 s. for his Wife, and had Goods taken from them to the value of 1 l. 15 s. by the ſame Officers, by Warrant from the ſaid Juſtice, and alſo the ſame Informers.

Thomas Valens fined for the ſame Meeting 10 s. for himſelf and Wife, and had Goods taken from him to the value of 19 s. 6 d. by the ſame Officers, Juſtice and Informers.

Samuel Roe for Friends coming to his Houſe to accompany him to bury his Wife, was fined 20 l. and had Goods taken from him to the value of 30 l. by *John Willott* Conſtable of

Ilſon, and other Officers, by a warrant from *John Loe*, called Juſtice, *John Wilſon* Prieſt of *Ilſon* and *John Wagg* Collier Informers.

John Lynam, for being at the ſame Burial, was fined 5 l. 10 s. and had Goods taken from him to the value of 6 l. 10 s. by *John Roland* and other Officers of the pariſh of *Pentridge*, by Warrant from the ſaid Juſtice, *John Wilſon* Prieſt of *Ilſon* and *John Wagg* Collier Informers.

John Blunſton of *Little-Hallam* in the pariſh of *Ilſon*, for being at the ſaid Burial, was fined 5 s. for himſelf, and 10 l. for the poverty of the Preacher, and had four Cows taken from him to the value of 14 l. by *John Willot* Conſtable, and other Officers of the ſaid pariſh, by Warrant from *John Loe*, called Juſtice, *John Wilſon* Prieſt and *John Wagg* Collier Informers.

John Hanks and *Ann* his Wife, for being at the ſame Burial, were fined by the ſaid Juſtice 20 s. for their ſecond pretended Offences, whereas his Wife was never convicted before, and was diſtrained of by the aboveſaid Officers, and the ſame Informers Inſtruments.

Robert Towe and *John Willott* can witneſs the aboveſaid Sufferings.

Hugh Maſtin and *George Ellis*, both of *Baſlow* in the pariſh of *Bakewell* in this County, now Priſoners in the County-Goal at *Derby*, where they have been kept cloſe Priſoners ſince the 29th day of the laſt ſecond moneth called *April*, by an *Excommunicato Capiendo* out of the *Biſhop's Court* of *Litchfield*, and as pretended, for not appearing at that Court, although they were never cited thereto.

Perſons fined for being at a Peaceable Meeting at Tupton *the 15th day of the laſt 12th Moneth, as followeth.*

John Fletcher of *Tupton* fined 20 l. for the Meeting houſe, & had his Goods ſeized upon for the ſaid Fine, although the ſaid *John* was not at that Merting, nor intereſted in the Houſe more then

then another Friend; for the Land was ſold by *John* ſeveral years ſince.

Nicholas Swift of *Brampton* was fined for being at the ſaid Meeting 5 s. and for an unknown Preacher or Teacher, as the words were, fined 5 l. and had Goods taken from him to that value, and 10 s. more the Officers took for diſtraining, by *Ralph Renſhaw*, *William Dobb*, and other Officers.

Thomas Brocksop of *Little-Normanton*, for being at the ſaid Meeting, was fined 5 s. and 5 l. more for an unknown Preacher or Teacher, and had a Bullock taken from him and ſold by *William Allwood* and *Richard Cooper*, but whether for ſo much Money or no he knows not, but believes the whole fine was paid by the Officers.

Suſanna Frith of *Cheſterfield* fined 5 l. 5 s. for the ſaid Meeting, but the Officers coming, and finding her Door put to, returned and made no Diſtreſs.

John Clay fined for the ſaid Meeting 5 l. 5 s. but he being a ſingle man, and boarding with his Brother, and having no perſonal Eſtate that was apparent, the Officers could make no Diſtreſs.

Richard Clayton, for being at the ſaid Meeting, was fined 5 s. but being a Servant to one that is called Sr. *Henry Humlock*, the Officers could make no Diſtreſs.

This was done by Warrants from *Thomas Gladwin* called Juſtice, *John Coope* Thirdborough and *Robert Moſely* Informers, but were conſtrained to be ſo by the ſaid Juſtice.

William Allwood and *Ralph Renſhaw* can witneſs theſe things.

Several Warrants more are forth againſt ſeveral Friends, for being at a peaceable Meeting at *Tupton* the 29th of the laſt 7th Moneth, but not all of them being as yet executed, there is no Account given of them at preſent.

Stafford-ſhire.

IN the 10th Moneth, 1675. *Thomas Hinks*, *Thomas Wall* and *John Dible* of *Woolverhamton*, were brought Priſoners to *Staffood* Goal upon a Writ *Excommunicato Capiendo*; *T. Hinks* and *T. Wall* continued Priſoners about three moneths, and *John Dible* remained Priſoner about ſix moneths.

1676. *William Riding* of *Lyn* was taken Priſoner by *Benjamin Lant* Apparritor, about the 5th moneth, upon the above ſaid Writ, and remained Priſoner Twenty One Weeks.

Michael Nickens, a poor Man, was taken upon the above-ſaid Writ, and remains ſtill Priſoner.

William Morgin was taken Priſoner about the 11th of the 6th moneth, and ſtill remains in priſon upon the aboveſaid Writ.

Thomas Hamerſly was taken Priſoner by *Humphry Sutton*, at *Litchfield* Apparritor, about the ſixteenth of the ſeventh moneth, and ſtill remaineth a Priſoner upon the aboveſaid Writ.

In the 7th moneth *William Alcock* of *Fordwelly*, near *Leek*, had taken from him one great Kettle, a great Pot, a little Kettle, and two Pewter Diſhes, to the value of fifty ſhillings, at the Suit of *George Roods* Prieſt of *Leek*, for the value of ſix ſhillings, which he demanded of him for *Eaſter-Reckonings*, by *Thomas Hamerſly* Bailiff, and his men.

Priſoners

Prisoners upon the Account of Truth in the County of *Somerset* at *Ivelchester* the 26th Day of the 11th Moneth, 1676.

John Sage of *Chewton*, Aged about Eighty Years, hath been Prisoner since the 8th moneth, 1666. upon an *Exegi fac.* for not paying Tythes to the Suit of *Ann Kingsmell* Widow, Impropriator; the value of Tythes worth about 9 or 10 s.

William Liddon of *Wythell*, upon an *Exegi fac.* imprisoned the 11th moneth, 1670. for not paying Tythes at the suit of *John Hillacre* Farmer of Tythes.

Arthur Ieffrey of *South-Brent*, imprisoned in the 9th moneth, 1670. upon a *Kings-Bench* Writ, to the Suit of *Will. Plumley*, *Thomas Brigham* and *Willoughby Leyne* Spinster, for not paying Tythes to the value of about 16 s. 8 d.

Marmaduke Coate of *Hauchbridge*, imprisoned in the 6th moneth 1670 upon an Attachment out of the Exchequer, upon Contempt, as charged, to the Suit of *Robert Bambury* Impropriator, for not paying Tythes.

Gregory Ceely of *North-Curry*, aged about 69 years, imprisoned in the 2d mon. 1673. in Execution for not paying Tythes to the Suit of *Robert Hill* Farmer of Tythes, wherein he chargeth above Nineteen Times the value, and besides, hath taken his Goods in part, and yearly takes away his Corn also, contrary to Law.

Note, *At one Assizes* Hill's *Witnesses prove the Tythes to be worth* 3 l. *at another Assizes the same witnesses swear the same Tythes to be worth Twelve Pound Fifteen Shillings, for which the Execution is One Hundred Forty Four Pound, which*

which is above Eleven Times more then proved, the ſingle value for three years being 7 l. 10 s.

James Paple of *Stawell*, impriſoned the 28th of the firſt moneth, 1674, in Execution for not paying Tythes to the ſuit of *William Bull* an Impropriator, who is ſince Dead.

John Denny of *Weſton-Loyland*, a poor Husbandman Labourer, impriſoned in the 10th moneth, 1674. upon a Writ *de Excommunicato Capiendo*, for not paying ſmall Tythes to *William Powel* Impropriator, the value of Tythes being about 9 d. for three Years.

Ieremy Powel of *Michael-Creech*, impriſoned in the 11th moneth, 1674. upon a Writ *de Excommunicato Capiendo*, for not paying Tythes and Offerings to *John Gale* Prieſt of *Creech*, to the value of about 4 d.

Thomas Browning of *Lymington*, impriſoned the 24th of the 1ſt moneth, 1674. upon an Attachment out of the Exchequer, for not appearing to the ſuit of *Matthew Brayn* Prieſt of *Lymington*, for ſmall Tythes, the value being about 25 s. for five years, and the Prieſt took away his Corn by force.

William Ford of *Curry-Mallett*, impriſoned the ſecond moneth, 1675. by an Attachment out of the Exchequer for not paying Tythes to the Suit of *Thomas Beal*, Prieſt of *Curry-Mallett* for Tythe-Apples.

Walter Hodges of *Kingsbury*, impriſoned on the 3d of the 1ſt moneth, 1675. upon an attachment out of the Chancery, for not paying Tythes to the Suit of *William Strode* Impropriator.

John Wride, *Robert Tutton*, *John Brice* and *Robert Stert* of *Burnham*, impriſoned the 2d moneth, 1675 by a Mittimus from ſeveral Juſtices of the Peace, for Contempt, as alledged, for not appearing at the Biſhop's Court at *Wells*, upon a Citation to the Suit of *Rober Collier* Prieſt of *Charde*, who lives there, and yet demands the Tythes of *Burnham* alſo, being about Twenty Miles diſtant; it is for ſmall Tythes.

Note, *That this was done upon a Citation only for not appearing, without any other Proceedings, Decrees or Sentence; and the words*

words are conjunctively for Contempt of Proceedings, Sentences and Decrees; see the Statute.

John Parsons of *Middlezoy*, imprisoned in 1675. upon a Writ *de Excommunicato Capiendo*, to the suit of *William Powel* Impropriator; in a Case of with-holding Tythes, upon which he was removed to *London*, & remanded to the Cost and Charge of the Sheriff, by the promotion of one *Hartrye*; the said Impropriator's Agent, who is since cast into Prison himself by his Master for his Unjust Dealing.

John Chapple of *Worle* imprisoned in the 11th Moneth, 1675. upon a Writ *de Excommunicato Capiendo*, to the Suit of *Samuel Willan* Priest of *Weston* and *Kewstock*, for not paying Tythes to the value of about 14 Groats after the Priest's rate.

Edward Silcocks of *Weston super Mare*, a poor Man and a Labourer, brought to Goal in the 2d moneth, 1675. upon a Writ of *Excommunicato Capiendo*, for ome small Tythes of Fish, &c. which came to about 10 s. for five years, to the suit of the said Priest *Willan*, who is an Envious, Persecuting proud-spirited Man.

Note, *This was for not answering upon Oath to the Priest's Articles in the Bishop's Court at* Wells, *which to impose is contrary to the Statute* 13 Car. 2d 12.

Robert Wills of *Chiselborrough*, imprisoned the 25th of the first moneth, 1676. upon an Attachment out of the Exchequer for not paying Tythes to old Priest *Gauler*, who is Dead.

Thomas Powell of *Greniton*, imprisoned in the fifth moneth, 1676 upon a Writ *de Excommunicato Capiendo*, for not answering upon Oath to the Articles of *William Powell* Impropriator, in a Case of Tythes, the value at utmost for six years stints of Meadow six shillings nine pence, & for nine Cocks of Barley worth about three shillings four pence, though the *Schedule* mentioned in the *Libel* which begins, *In Dei nomine amen*, chargeth 12 Acres of Wheat, 15 Acres of Barley, & 100 Acres of Meadow

Note, *also contrary to the Statute* 13 Car. 2. 12.

Elianor Powel Wife of the said *Tho Powel*, by the name of-

of *Elianor Watts* (the Suit being begun before they were married) impriſoned the 15th of the 6th moneth, 1676. upon an Execution out of the *Kings Bench* to the Suit of Prieſt *Collier*, for not paying Tythes, though He by Violence took them away, and got bad Fellows to ſwear for him at the Aſſizes; one of his Witneſſes called *Philip Samm*, ſwore in the Prieſt's preſence in the Court, *That the Wheat was worth* 15 l. *an Acre*, to make up the matter.

William Goodridge and *Samuel Sayer* of *Banwell* impriſoned the fifth day of the 7th moneth, 1676. by an Attachment out of the Exchequer for not paying Tythes to the Suit of *Iacob Croſman* prieſt.

Edmund Chapple of *Worle* rendred himſelf Priſoner the 20th of the 11th moneth, 1676. upon the Statute 5 *Eliz.* 23. within ſix dayes after Proclamation, or elſe had incurred the penalty of 10 l. he being formerly Excommunicated for not anſwering upon Oath to prieſt *Willan*'s Artcles and Libel in the Biſhop's Court at *Wells*, and the Sheriff having returned *that he was not to be found* upon the Writ *de Excommunicato Capiendo*, though he did not abſcond but followed his Occaſions.

And this alſo in the ground was for not anſwering upon Oath, the Tender whereof is contrary to the Statute 13 Car. 2d 12.

John Anderdon of *Bridgewater*, impriſoned upon the Falſe Swearing of wicked Informers, and hath been Priſoner ſince the 3d of the 6th moneth, 1675. and for refuſing to ſwear was left upon Kalender as Premunired by Judge *Kainsford* at the Aſſizes at *Taunton*, the 21th day of the 1ſt moneth, 1675. the wicked Accuſation of the Informers coming to nothing, the chiefeſt of them having ſtood in the *Pillory* for Wilful Perjury.

Note, *No Iury paſt upon him, nor Sentence given in Court according to Law, though the Priſoner had pleaded as to matter of Fact for refuſing to take the Oath.*

Sufferers

Sufferers in *Cheshire*.

Samuel Rayle meeting with *Ieffery Shackerly* Governour of the Castle of *Chester*, and not putting off his Hat, he the said Governour threatned him, and soon after sent a Warrant to fetch him before the Monethly Meeting, and there tendred him the Oath of *Allegiance* (that infallible Snare) and because for Conscience Sake he could not swear, committed him prisoner to the Castle, where he hath remained since the 28th Day of the 8th Moneth, 1676.

Ioan Edge Widdow, aged sixty Years, for not paying Tythe-Hay and Easter-Dues, was sued in the Bishop's Court, and committed to prison, where she hath remained since the 15th Day of the 10th Moneth, 1676.

Sufferers for the Truth's Sake in *Suffolk*, the 9th of the 11th Mo. 1676.

William Seaman of *Melton* was cast into Prison upon the 28th of the 2d Moneth, 1668. at the suit of Priest *Beesten* of the same Town, for not paying Tythes, upon which suit he still continues a Prisoner in the said *Melton-Goal*.

Robert Britwel of *Ufford*, because for Conscience Sake he could not pay Tythes, was cast into *Melton-Goal*, upon the 14th Day of the 7th Moneth, 1670. at the suit of *Richard Lufkin* Priest of the same Town, where he still continues upon the Account afore-said.

John Downam was cast into *Bury*-Prison, upon the 28th of the 3d Moneth, 74. by a *Significavit*, at the suit of *John Garrad* Priest of *Asson*, where he still continues.

Edward Higns by the ſame Writ, for not paying to the Steeple-Houſe Rate (the ſum of 5 s.) was committed to *Bury* Goal the 7th day of the 6th Moneth, 1675. at the VVardens ſuit of *Gregory* Pariſh, in *Sudbury*.

William Scarce, by a *Siguificavit*, for not marrying according to the National way, and yet he was married before he came amongſt the People called *Quakers*, committed the 28th Day of the 6th Moneth, 1675 to *Bury* Priſon, at the ſuit of the Prieſt or Pariſhoner of *Wortham*.

William Fackner and *John Manning* of *Aldeborough*, were taken Priſoners the 28th of the 11th Moneth, 1675. upon a *Significavit*, for not going to hear *Common Prayer* (ſo called) and committed to the County Goal in *Ipſwich*, being 18 miles from their own Habitations having Wives and Children. *Note* their Emnity; for *Aldeborough* is a Corporation-Town, and a Goal in it, yet notwithſtanding *Ipſwich* being 18 miles, as above ſaid, they were ſent thither, where they remained Priſoners this 6th Day of the 11th Moneth, 1676.

John Burch of *Snape*, upon the ſame Account, and in the ſame Goal, was committed Priſoner the 3d Day of the 12th moneth, 1675. being 14 miles from his own Habitation, from his Wife & Children, notwithſtanding *Blibborough* Goal belongs to that Town, and is not above five or ſix miles from him, and doth alſo remain Priſoner in *Ipſwich* Goal afore-ſaid this 6th Day of the 11th Moneth, 1676.

George Glamdfield of *Chelmondiſton*, was taken Priſoner the 17th Day of the 4th Moneth, 1675. upon a *Significavit* for Tythes, at the ſuit of *Daniel Smart* of *Chelmondiſton*, a Prieſt, and was Priſoner there the 3d Day of the 11th Moneth 1676. upon the ſame Account.

John Beardmore Prieſt of *Arrington*, took from *George Deen*, in the 4th and 6th Moneths 76 at ſeveral times, viz. One Pig, and by Eſtemation, as followeth, two Buſhels and an half of Wheat, two Buſhels and an half of Rye, one Buſhel and an half of Oats, ſeven Buſhels and an half of Barley, one Buſhel of Apples, and ten pounds of Hops, all valued at 1 l. 18 s. 4 d. witneſs *John Franks*, *George Fenner* and others,

John

John Britewel took from *Nathaniel Keeble* of *Tunſtal*, in the 4th and 6th Moneth, 1676. at ſeveral times, *viz.* Certain Clover valued at 8 s. Rye judged by the Reapers to be ſeven Combs of it, Barley judged to be five Combs of it; witneſs *Joſhua Poynts*, *Robert Scotſmer* and others.

Edmund Stubs Prieſt took from the ſaid *Nathaniel Keeble*, at ſeveral times in the fifth and ſixth Moneths, 1676. viz. Wheat judged to be eight Combs of it, Peaſe judged to be ſix Buſhels; moreover he took for one Years Tythes of about 9 l. *per annum*, eleven Cows and Heifers, and one Bull, which Cattle were valued to be worth 40 l. witneſs *Joſhua Poynts*, *Thomas Keeble* and others.

This Account was ſent up, but there is a Report, as if ſome of *Nathaniel Keeble*'s Wife's Kindred, who are no *Quakers*, had compounded for the Cattle, and that he hath them again.

The ſaid *E. Stubs* Prieſt took from *Robert Davie*, of *Tunſtal* afore-ſaid, on the 8th Day of the 6th Mo. 76. for one Years Tythes of 21 l. *per an.* 6 Cows & one Bull, & 7 Calves, but the Calves got away from the Bailiffs, which ſaid Cows and Bull were valued to be worth 22 l. witneſs *Nathaniel Keeble* and others.

Note, 2 or 3 of theſe Cows taken from R. D were returned again.

Mary Pollard of *Branſon* widow, an aged woman, was committed to *Melton* priſon, the nineth of the eighth Moneth, 1676. at the ſuit of *William Ribands* of *Creeingham*, being one that hired an Impropriation of Tythes, and ſhe remains a priſoner there upon the ſame Account, the ſixth Day of the eleventh Moneth, 1676. The ſame *William Ribands* in the eleventh Moneth, 1672. took from the ſaid *Mary Pollard*, without proceeding againſt her in due Courſe of Law, two Cows, which were valued to be worth 7 l.

The ſixth Day of the 5th Moneth, 1676. *George Pippen* Prieſt of *Ringſhal*, by a Warrant out of the *County-Court* holden at *Ipſwich*, cauſed to be taken away from *William Greenwood* dwelling in *Briſet*, two Cows, which were reaſonably valued at 8 l. for two Years Tythes, at 20 s. *per annum*; and the Bailiffs were *Ambroſe Pulford* and *George Pooley* of *Needham*

ham; and the Cows were priſed, one at 50 s. and the other at 55 s. by *William Roſſe* and *Richard Scotchmer* bought by *Thomas Love* of *Nedeham-Market*.

On the 25th Day of the 9th Moneth, 1676. there was taken from *William Greenwood* of *Briſet*, within ſeven miles of *Ipſwich*, two Cows for Tythes, which they pretended was 3 l. the Cows were prized at 5 l. they being reaſonably worth 7 l. this was done by Warrant out of the County Court holden at *Ipſwich*, upon the Account of *Chriſtopher Sherman* Impropriator of the ſaid Town of *Briſet*; the Bailiffs Names are *John Coal*, *Richard Francis*.

Samuel Parmiter of *Otten-Belchamp* in the County of *Eſſex*, was arreſted for Tythes at the ſuit of *Oliver Rayment* Impropriator, of *Water-Belcham*, and was ſent to priſon at *Chelmsford* in the County of *Eſſex*, the 7th Day of the 9th Moneth, 1676.

Sufferers in *Nottingham-ſhire*.

FOr being at a Peaceable Meeting at *Hucknall*, the 16th day of the 2d Moneth, 1676. *Francis Clay* was fined 5 s. and ten Pound for the pretended Poverty of a Preacher. And *William Clay* was fined 10 s. for himſelf and his Wife, for which he had Goods taken from him worth 2 l. which the Officers ſold for 10 s. *Robert Thoroton*, the Juſtice, ſo called, bidding them, *Sell the Goods for what they could get, if they could get for Ten Pounds worth but Thirty Shillings*; and becauſe the Officers could not ſell the Goods ſo ſoon as he would have had them, he fined them 5 l. a man, and diſtrained their Goods.

Richard Bateman was fined for the ſame Meeting 5 s. and 10 l. for the pretended Poverty of the Preacher; and the ſaid *Richard* being but a poor man, they took moſt of the Goods

Goods in his Houſe, to the value of 2 l. and ſold them for 3 s. 6 d.

Elizabeth Clay and *Anthony Tomlinſon* fined 5 s. apiece.

Chriſtopher Brandreth fined 5 s. and 1 l. 5 s. for the pretended Poverty of five others, for which they took a Mare from him to the value of 4 l. which they ſold for 30 s.

Thomas Cockram fined 5 s. for himſelf, and 10 l. for the pretended Poverty of the Houſe, for which he had two Oxen taken from him worth 10 l. 10 s.

George Cockram for the ſame fined 5 s. had taken from him Goods worth 11 s.

John Bullivent the Elder fined 5 s. for himſelf, and 10 l. for the pretended Poverty of the Houſe, for which he had a Mare and Goods taken from him worth 3 l. the ſaid *John Bullivent* being a very poor Man, and not keeping Houſe, but dwelling in his Shop, being a Nailor, the aforeſaid Juſtice bid the Officers *take all he had, his Coat off his Back, and his Hat if it were on his Head, and his Hammer he workt with.*

John Bullivent the Younger fined 5 s. for the ſame.

The aforeſaid Goods were diſtrained by Warrant from *Rob. Thoroton* called Juſtice, *John Smith* of *Remſon* and *Tho. Sharp* of *Newark* Informers; the ſaid *John Smith* was very Rude in his Carriage in the Meeting, uſing Threatning Words to the perſons aſſembled, ſaying to one, with his Faucheon drawn in his Hand, *That he would thruſt it down his Throat*; and to another, *He would cleave him down, and run it into his Buttock.*

At another Meeting the 23d day of the 2d Moneth, 1676. at the Houſe of *Robert Grace* in *Sutton* in *Aſhfield*, theſe ſeveral Perſons following were taken by the aforeſaid *John Smith* and *Thomas Sharp* Informers, and had before *Arthur Stannup* called Juſtice, who fined them as followeth;

Robert Grace, for having the Meeting at his Houſe fined 4 l. for which *Samuel Brittain* took away part of his Houſhold Goods.

William Clay fined 10 s. for himſelf, and 10 l. for the pretended poverty of the Owner of the Houſe.

Thomas

Thomas Cockram fined 10 s. for himſelf, and 5 s. for his Wife, and had two young Beaſts taken from him worth 3 l. which the Officers ſold for 1 l. 8 s.

Elizabeth Clay fined 10 s. for her ſelf, and 10 s. for her Daughter

Mary Leadbeater fined 10 s. for her ſelf, and 10 s. for her Son.

William Maulſon (*M. L*'s Son aforeſaid) was fined 5 s. for himſelf, and 1 l. for the Poverty of two others, for which two laſt fines the Officers took away a Cow & Houſhold Goods to the value of 5 l. 4 s. which they ſold for 2 l. 10 s. Officers Names are *Francis Scarcliff* Conſtable, *Tho. Urdidge* Third-borrough.

The 28th day of the 3d Moneth, 1676. the aforeſaid people were by the Officers kept out of their Meeting at *Sutton* in the Street, where the aforeſaid Informers finding them, took ſeveral with them to a Juſtice's Houſe, but it being late at Night the Juſtice appointed them and the Officers to come the next Day, the Officers came, but the Informers went to *Robert Thoroton* another Juſtice, who they thought might be readier to do their Work, who fined theſe perſons following, and granted Warrants to make Diſtreſs on their Goods.

Robert Grace, *Anthony Tomlinſon*, *Joſeph Roberts*, fined 10 s. apiece, the Diſtreſſes made by *Samuel Brittain* Conſtable and other Officers.

George Cockram fined 10 s. for himſelf, and 1 l. for the Poverty of two others, and had a Cow taken from him worth l. 5 s. 4 d.

John Fullwood fined 5 s. for himſelf, and 10 l. for the Poverty of a Woman pretended to be the preacher, although ſome of the Officers preſent all the Meeting time, did teſtifie to the Juſtice, before whom the Sufferers were firſt brought, that they did hear no words tending to either Preaching or Teaching; yet this *Thoroton*, upon the Informers Falſe Swearing, did grant a Warrant to make Diſtreſs upon two Perſons Goods for 20 l. for the Preacher that day: and the aforeſaid *John Fullwood* had Eleven Quarters of Mault taken from him worth 10 l. 9 s.

And

And *William Day* for the pretended Preacher was fined 10 l. and had his Goods diſtrained.

George Hopkinſon had Goods taken from him worth Twelve Shillings.

Robert Marriot fined 5 s. for himſelf, and 3 l. for the poverty of ſix others, and had a Mare taken from him.

Edward Richardſon of *Kilverton*, for being at a peaceable Meeting at *Rowland Dabey*'s Houſe was fined 10 l. and they took away his Working-Tools, his Coals, Hay and Corn, Beds and Bedding, and other Houſhold Goods, and his Childrens Cloaths, to the value of 16 l. being almoſt all the poor man had, (he being a Black-ſmith by trade) to the undoing of his Wife & Children as much as lay in the Hands of wicked Men; but great are the Mercies of the Lord.

Diſtrained by Warrant from *Robert Thoroton* of *Carcouſon*, *Tho. Girton* Conſtable, *Chriſtopher Dent* of *Bingham*, and *Robert Wycam* Informers.

William Maultly of *Orſton* for the ſame had 7. Strike of Barley taken from him worth about 17s. by Warrant from *Robert Thoroton* called Juſtice, *Chriſtopher Dent*, and *Robert Wycam* Informers, taken by *William Dawſon* Conſtable, and *Hugh Lamb* Officer.

Robert Bullivant of *Over-Broughton*, was fined 10 s. and they took away his Houſhold Goods by Warrant, from Juſtice *Hows* of *Langer*, *John Hickling* Conſtable, *John Dably* and *William Pilkinton* Officers, *John Camſells* of *Everton* was fined 5 s. and had Goods taken from him worth about 10 s.

John Smith of *Everton* for the ſame was fined 5 s. and they took from him a pair of Boots worth above 8 s. diſtrained by Warrant from Juſtice *Sands* of *Screwby*, *John Baily*, *Thomas Reans*, *Robert Flower*, and *Robert Mew* Officers, the Informers not known.

John Ouldam of *Calverton* for being at a peaceable Meeting at the Houſe of *Robert Bradſhaw* of *Oxen* was fined 5 l. and they took away his Working Tools and a pair of Boots worth about 3 l. 9 s. and ſeized upon the reſt of his Working Gear

(he

(he being by Trade a weaver) ſince taken away; diſtrained by Warrant from *Robert Thoroton*, *William Hernſly* Conſtable, *Henry Marſhall*, and *William Martin*, and *Tho. Hutchinſon* Officers.

William Wilſon of *Girton* for having a Meeting at his Houſe peaceably to wait upon God, was fined 5 l. and they took away from him two Cows that were none of his own, but lent him by his Friends to give his Children milk, when his Goods were taken before upon the ſame account and they ſold the Cows which were worth about 6 l.

Thomas Crane of *North-Scarle* for going to the ſame, had Houſhold-goods taken from him, by *John Cheeſwright* Conſtable, to the value of about 5 l. for a fine of 55 s.

Stephen Swinſco and his Wife of *South-Collingham*, for going to the ſame Meeting was fined 5 l. 10 s. and he being a Labouring man, and not having to anſwer the fine, the Conſtable took Goods from him worth about 2 l. 16 s. *And the Conſtable was fined* 5 l. *for not taking a Cow that this poor Man had, which the Perſecutors heard of, though ſhe was gone out of the Lordſhip three dayes before the Conſtable came to diſtraine or had his Warrant; ſo he was forced to give the Informers* 20 s. *to agree with them.*

Another poor Woman in the ſame Town having almoſt all ſhe had taken from her formerly upon this account, ſhe having ſince got ſome Bedding, and other Neceſſaries, they have now ſtript her of All, and ſhe forced to go ſeek lodging in the Town; and her Land owner having a Bedſted which was left in the Houſe as an Earlcome, durſt not let it ſtand, though willing of himſelf, their Threats were ſo Cruel, being without Pitty or Mercy.

Robert Carnell of *North-Collingham* for going to the ſame Meeting, was fined 10 l. and they took from him almoſt all his Houſhold-goods, he being ſeveral times before diſtrained upon for the ſame thing; *And although formerly one that had Plenty of ſuch things, yet now is ingaged to a Neighbour for a Bed to lye on.*

Tho.

Tho. Fox for going to the ſame Meeting was fined 5 l. 5 s. and they took from his Brother *Thomas Leeveſly* as many Spokes and hewen Fellows as were worth about 6 l. 6 s. 8 d. which ſaid Spokes and Fellows were made over unto the ſaid *Thomas Leeveſly* by Bill of Sale for ſome ſum of Money the ſaid *Thomas* had paid for his Brother, and was made appear ſo to be before the Juſtice; yet the ſaid Juſtice refuſing to do Right put the Conſtable to diſtraine.

Matthew Hartly, a very poor man, for going to the ſame Meeting was fined 15 s. and being gone forth of the Town to get his liveſyhood, *ſpinning Woollfor 2 d. th day*, the Officers broke open his Door, and took moſt of what he had there, being very little.

John Truſswell for going to the ſame Meeting was fined 5 l. 5 s. and they took away his Houſhold-goods, not leaving Bedding to cover them, but as it is lent them by others; and ſome of the Famiſy lodge in the Town for want of Bedding; *This being a man alſo that has had Plenty of theſe things for his own Family, and alſo hath helped to relieve others before this Act came forth, ſince which he hath often ſuffered much*; and thus the Scripture is fulfilled, *They that depart from Iniquity are made a Prey.*

All theſe Warrants granted by *Robert Thoroton* of *Carcouſon*, *John Smith* of *Remſton*, and *Robert Wycam* of *Orſton* Informers.

The names of the Sufferers, and the Towns where they live are as follow, of *Gerton*, *Richard Carter* Conſtable, *Roger Baradale* Warden, *Tho. Wilſon* Overſeer; *theſe three were fined* 5 l. *apiece for turning back two Cows when owned, and forced to take them again, and ſell them.* North-Collingham, *Richard Longmate* Conſtable, *John Roades*, *Robert Trawly* Wardens, *William Hall*, *Richard Godſave* Overſeers. *South-Collingham*, *John Tinſley* Conſtable, *fined* 5 l. *for not taking a Cow that was gone three dayes before the Warrant came to his Hand*, *John Crane* Overſeer, *Robert Millnes*, *Bartholomew Perkins* Wardens. *North-Searle*, *John Cheeſwrite* deputie-Conſtable, *Jarvis Partridge* Warden.

Ralph

Ralph Bateman and *John Bateman* of *Fransfield*, for being at a peaceable Meeting was fined 20 l. and had Sheep taken from them worth 33 l. by Warrant from *Penistone Whaley*, *Robert Brown* Constable, *Edward Baington*, *John Gunthorp* Wardens, *Richard Bean* Third-borough, *Thomas Hickbone* Overseer, *Christopher Dent* of *Bingham*, and *John Warin* of *Westhorp* Informers.

William Watson of *Fransfield*, for being at the same Meeting was fined 20 l and had Goods and Cattel taken to the value of 30 l. and had Houshold-goods, with Corn upon the Ground not ripe worth 30 l. more, yet sold all together by the aforesaid Officers.

Andrew Hodson for his Wife and Daughter being at the same Meeting, had two Swine taken from them, cost 1 l. 10 s.

Mary Handly of *Edenly* for being at the same Meeting was strained of, and the Officers thinking they had not taken enough, she being from Home, they brake down the VVall and shot the Lock, and took most of her Goods to the value of 1 l. 18 s. and left Goods not worth 3 s. *John Horner* and *John Dallimer* VVardens, *Charles Ward* Third-borough, by VVarrant from *Penistone Whaley*.

John Wood, for being at the same Meeting had Goods taken to the value of 10 s.

Stephen Moor, for being at the same Meeting, had a Table taken worth about 13 s. 4 d. by the same Officers.

Edward Wood of *Ekrin* Wheelwright, for being at a peaceable Meeting at his own House, was fined 20 l. and had six Cows and two Heifers taken from him to the value of 19 l. 14 s. 6 d. when sold they wanted 6 l. to make up the Fine and Charges, and a Neighbour (called *William Hurt*) laid down 6 l. and took away Wheel-Timber for the same; distrained by *John Holmes* Constable, *Richard Tomson* senior, *Richard Peck* sen. *William Moore* sen. *William Johnson* jun. and *Thomas Peck* Officers of *Ekrin*, *Christopher Dent* and *Robert Wyam* Informers, by Warrant from *Robert Thoroton*.

John Cam of *Kirsal* in the parish of *Kneesal*, for being at the

the ſame Meeting was fined 5 s. and for the Poverty of the Preacher, as they pretended, 10 l. and had two Cows, one Horſe and a Mare taken from him to the value of 10 l. 5 s. by *John Key* Conſtable of *Kneeſal*, and *John Wright* of *Kneeſal* Warden.

Thomas Eſtwood for being at the ſame Meeting was fined 5 s. and had one great Bible, one Warming-pan, one Pewter-Diſh taken from him by the ſame Officers.

Richard Hind of *Welley* ſen. for being at the ſame Meeting was fined for himſelf and the pretended Poverty of Nineteen Perſons more 5 l. and had taken from him two Cows, one Yearling-Calf, worth about Six Pound Ten Shillings, *Cuthbert Walker* Conſtable, *Samuel Tongue* and *James Byllyate* Overſeers.

Richard Birkit of *Knapthorp* for the ſame Meeting was fined 5 s. and for the Poverty of the Preacher aforeſaid 10 l. which 10 l. 5 s. was paid by his Brother *Peter Birkit* into the Seſſions at *Newark*.

Roger Noble of *Kerſal* for being at the ſame Meeting was fined 5 s. and had Pewter and Brals taken to the value of 12 s. by *John Key* Conſtable, and *John Wright* Warden.

Elizabeth Johnſon for being at the ſame Meeting was fined 5 s. and it was paid by her Husband *George Johnſon*.

Robert Bradſhaw of *Oxen* for having a peaceable Meeting at his Houſe was fined 20 l. and had taken from him two Mares, four Beaſts to the Value of 20 l. *William Aulcock* Conſtable, *Robert Buſh* and *Robert Stox* Overſeers, *Tho. Farnell*, *Gabriel Martin* Wardens, *Chriſtopher Dent* and *Robert Wycam* Informers, by Warrant from *Robert Thoroton*.

For a Meeting at *Knapthorp*, in the Pariſh of *Conton*, in the ſaid County, the 11th of the 4th Moneth, 1676. by Warrant from *Robert Thoroton* ſenior (by *Chriſtopher Dent* of *Bingham*, and *Robert Wycam* of *Orſton* in the County aforeſaid Informers) directed to the Conſtables, Church-Wardens and Overſeers for the Poor of *Knapthorp*, *Kirſal*, *Kneeſal* and *Kirton*,

and to every or any of them; the Tenour whereof was on this wiſe, "Whereas I am credibly informed, that there will be a "Meeting at ſome of your ſaid Towns, or within your reſpe- "ctive Liberties, or thereabouts, on Pretence of Religion, o- "therwiſe then by Law is eſtabliſhed, theſe are therefore in "his Majeſty's Name to will and require you, and every or any "of you to bring the ſaid Perſons ſo aſſembled before me, or "ſome other of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for this "County, to be dealt withal according to Law; thereof "fail not, &c. Given under my Hand and Seal, the 13th "of April, 28 *Car.* 3. Anno Dommini 1676. *Robert Tho-* "*roton.*

So there being a peaceable Meeting in Silence by the High-way-ſide (being kept out of their ordinary Meeting-houſe) was taken by *Richard Taylor* Conſtable, and *Richard Greaves* and *Rowland Wilſon* Church-wardens of *Conton*, and had before *William Cartwright* of *Oſington*, and were fined as followeth, and Warrants granted to diſtrain, *John Cam* of *Kirſal* for himſelf, his Wife and his Brother *John Hall* 15 s. and the Money was paid by his Wife's Father *William Hall* of *Maplebeck*, who took away Goods from *John Cam* to ſatisfie for the ſame.

John Machon of *Kneeſal* for himſelf & his Wife fined 10 s. and had Goods taken from him to the value of about 10 s. by *Thomas Hay* Conſtable of *Kneeſal*, and *Samuel Lee* Overſeer.

Joſeph Humphrey of *Kneeſal* fined 5 s. and they took from his Father *Richard Humphrey* three Pewter-diſhes worth about 7 s. by the aforeſaid *Tho. Hay* and *Samuel Lee*.

William Kent of *Kirton* fined 5 s. and had 5 s. taken by *John Preſtwood* Conſtable, and *Francis Roberts* and *John Woodcock* Officers of *Kirton*.

Roger Noble of *Kirſal* fined 5 s. which was paid by his Mother in Law *Mary Wright* of *Kirſal*.

Richard Hind of *Wellow* jun. fined 5 s. and a Braſs-Pan, and a Pewter Flagon worth about 6 s. 6 d. was taken from his Father *Richard Hind*, by *Cuthbert Walker* Conſtable, and

John

John Challerton and *William Whitlam* Wardens, and *John Bullivant* and *Edward Gilbert* Overſeers.

James Hynd of *Wellow* fined 5 s. had a Bed-hilling and a Blanket taken to the value of about 10 s. 6 d. by the ſame Officers.

For a Meeting at *Kirſal* in the Pariſh of *Kneeſal*, in the ſaid County of *Nottingham* the 18th of the 4th Moneth, 1676. which Meeting was peaceable, and in Silence, by the High-way-ſide on the Common, being kept out of their ordinary Meeting-Houſe, the Informers came and took what Names they pleaſed, and they were fined as followeth, by Warrants from *Robert Thoroton*, *Chriſtopher Dent* and *Robert Wycam* being Informers.

Edward Wood of *Ekrin* in the County aforeſaid Wheelwright fined 10 s. for himſelf and his Wife, and 10 l. for the poverty of the Place (which particularly belonged to none except the Queen, to whom they pay *Common Fine*) which 10 l. 10 s. was paid into the Quarter-Seſſions at *Newark* the 12th of the 5th Mo. 1676. by the Officers of *Ekrin*, who took his Timber, and almoſt all his Houſhold-goods to the value of the ſame; the Officers that diſtrained were *John Hollin* Conſtable, *Rich. Townſend* ſenior, *William Moor* ſenior, *Thomas Peck* and *The. Machen* Thirdboroughs, *Martin Cam* Overſeer, and *William Moor* junior and *Thomas Salmon* Wardens.

Thomas Oakland of *Knapthorp* in the Pariſh of *Conton* fined 10 s. for himſelf and his Wife, and 10 l. for the Poverty of the Place aforeſaid, and had almoſt all his Goods taken and ſold for 5 l. by *Richard Taylor* of *Conton* Conſtable, *Richard Greaves* and *Rowland Wilſon* Wardens.

John Cam of *Kirſal* in the Pariſh of *Kneeſal* Wheelwright, fined 20 s. for himſelf and his Wife, and 40 s. for the Poverty of *Michael Embly*, *Iſabel Roberts*, *Eſther Scrimſhaw*, *Roger Noble* and *Jonathan Humphrey*, and 3 l. was paid by *William Hall* of *Maplebeck* his Wife's Father, who took away Goods for the ſame, and ſeized of that little he had left.

John Kent of *Norlayths* in the Pariſh of *Rufard* Husbandman for being at a peaceable Meeting at *Kneeſal* the 25th of the 4th Mo. 76. was fined 10 l. 10 s. and had eight young

Beaſts

Beasts taken from him to the value of 17 l. by *John Gray* Constable of *Rufard*.

James Hind of *VVellow* Tailor for being at the same Meeting was fined 10 s. and had the Bed-clothes taken from off their Beds, insomuch as the Boy about four Years old, the 2d of the 11th Mon. 75. said, *Now I must be fain to lie in my Clothes, for we have nothing left to hap us)* to the value of about 1 l. 13 s. by *Cuthbert Walker* of *VVellow* Constable, *John Challerton*, *VVilliam VVhittham* VVardens, and *Edward Gilbert* Overseer.

Richard Hind junior of *VVellow* for being at the same Meeting was fined 10 s. and they took from his Father *Richard Hind* a Swine worth about 18 s. by the aforesaid Officers.

Edward Wood of *Ekrin* was fined 10 l. 10 s. for the same account as they pretended, though he was not there at that time, *John Warin* of *Westhorp* in the parish of *Suthwell* and one *Johnson* of *Bingham* Informers, who came to the Town and informed the Constable *Thomas Hay* of the Meeting, and went their way, and the Constable was fined 5 l. and a Warrant granted out to distrain by *Robert Thoroton* for the same, although he had set watch-men to keep Friends out of the House where the Meeting was to have been, and himself came into the yard where Friends were peaceable together, and the Meeting was dispersed soon after; so he went to the Justice with the Officers that had the Warrant to distrain of him that he might take in the Warrant, and another Townsman *William Trulove* with him, and they gave in the Names or consented to the Names of Friends that the Justice read to them. The Fines above-mentioned and the Goods distrained was by Warrant from *Robert Thoroton* of *Carcouson*, a Copy of one of the Warrants follows,

To the Constables, Church-Wardens and Overseers for the Poor of *Wellow*, and every or any of them.

Forasmuch as James Hind *and* Rich. Hind *of the said Town are lawfully convicted before me, for having been present at a Conventicle or Unlawful Assembly, on pretence of Religion, otherwise then by Law is established,*

in

in Kneesal, *on Sunday, the 25th of* June *last past; these are therefore in his Majesty's Name to require you to levy of each of the Offenders* 10s. *apiece, being formerly convicted, by Distress and Sale of Goods; which Sums you are to deliver to me, to be distributed according to Law; hereof fail not, as you wil answer the contrary at your Peril.*

Given under my Hand and Seal the 27th day of July, 28 Car. 2. Anno Dom. 1676.

Robert Thoroton.

The 9th of the 5th Mo. 1676. the aforesaid People being met together to wait upon the Lord at *Mansfield*, they being kept without the Gates to the Street-ward, which some call *Lords-waste*, others the *King's high-way*, and there came three *Informers* to the Meeting, viz. *John Smith* of *Remson*, *Edward Simson* of *Lenton*, the third not known by us, and they hearing no Declaration when they came, they sent for the Constable and took the Names of them they knew, and those they knew not they drew out of the Assembly, and put them to the Constable to have them before a Justice, and one Woman when she was put to the Constable did speak some Words to one of the Informers, which he said he would make preaching, so having sent some to one called Justice *Stanhope* of *Linby*, they went to *Robert Thoroton* of *Careouson* (a fit Instrument for their purpose) who granted Warrants, and fined them as followeth, *George Hopkins* of *Mansfield* for being at the said Meeting was fined 5 s. for his own Offence, and 10 l. for the poverty of the Preacher or Teacher, as they pretended, which was but the Woman that spoke to one of the Informers, as aforesaid, for which Fines the Officers took 7 Quarter & 7 Strike of Mault, he being a Maultster, and they came into his House, and looked into all his Rooms and said, they would have all his Houshold-Goods, they would not leave him a Spoon.

Robert Moor for his Wife being at the said Meeting was fined 10 s. for which the Officers took two pair of Shoes, and one Pair of Boots, the said *Robert* being a Shoemaker.

John Fulwood Maultster for being at the said Meeting was fined

fined 10 s. for his own Offence, and 50 s. for the Poverty of *John Bullevant* ſen. and *John Bullevant* jun. *Mary Leadbeater*, *Thomas Leadbeater* and *William Malſon*, theſe five lived at *Scegby*; the Officers Names *James Hardy* and *Francis Watſon* Conſtables, *Thomas Clark* and *John Pumtree* Thirdboroughs.

George Cockram of *Scegby* for his Wife being at the ſame Meeting was fined 10 s. for which the Officers took an Heifer worth 1 l. and they ſold her, as *George* did hear, for 18 s. not offering to return any overplus again to him; The Officers Names were *Francis Searcliph* Conſtable, and *Thomas Urdidge* Thirdborough.

Robert Grace of *Sutton* for him ſelf and Wife being at the ſame Meeting was fined 20 s. *Elizabeth Brandrith* for being at the ſame Meeting was fined 10 s.

John Blackburn, *Samuel Whitworth*, *Elizabeth Whitworth* and *Elixabeth Fells* for being at the ſame Meeting were fined every and each of them 5 s.

Margaret Whitworth for being at the ſame Meeting was fined 5 s. for her own Offence, and 40 s. for the Poverty of *Richard Bateman*, *Joſeph Roberts*, *Sarah Clay* and *Francis Clay*.

Richard Cooper of *Mansfield-woodhouſe* for being at the ſame Meeting was fined 5 s. for his own Offence, and 10 l. for the Poverty of the Place where the Meeting was kept, it being without the Gates to the Street-ward, as is before mentioned.

Thomas Scoaley of *Warſop* for being at the ſame Meeting was fined 10 l. for the Poverty of the Place aforeſaid.

Here followeth a Copy of one of the Warrants.

Nott. To the Conſtables, Church-Wardens, and Overſeers for the Poor, and Thirdboroughs of *Sutton* in *Aſhfield* and *Hurknal*, and every or any of them.

Foraſmuch as Robert Grace *and his wife*, Eliz. Brandrith, Jo. Blackburn, Sam. Whitworth, Eliz. Whitworth, Eliz. Fello *and* Sarah Clay, Richard Bateman, Joſeph Roberts, Fran. Clay *&* Margret Whitworth

of

of your said Towns, are lawfully convicted before me for having been present at a Conventicle or Unlawful Assembly, on pretence of Religion, otherwise then by Law is established, in Mansfield, *on Sunday the 9th of this instant* July; *these are therefore in his Majesty's Name to require you to levy of the said* Rob. Grace *for his own Offence and his said Wife's Offence the sum of* 1 l. *being formerly convicted; and the said* Eliz. Brandrith *the sum of* 10 s. *for her own Offence, being formerly convicted; & the said* John Blackburn, Sam. Whitworth, Eliz. Whitworth *and* Eliz. Fello, *of every or each of them the sum of* 5 s. *apiece; and of the said* Margret Whitworth *the sum of* 5 s. *for her own Offence, & the sum of* 2 l. *by reason of the poverty of* Rich. Bateman, Joseph Roberts, Sarah Clay *&* Francis Clay *formerly convicted, by Distresses and Sale of Goods; which said sums you are to deliver to me, to be distributed according to Law; hereof fail not, as ye will answer the contrary at your Perils.*

Given under my Hand and Seal the 25th day of July, 28 Car. 2. Anno Dom. 1676.

Robert Thoroton.

William Day of *Newmenleas* Milner near *Eastwood* being at a Meeting at *Sutton* in *Ashfield*, the 28th of the 3d Moneth, 76. was fined 5 s. for his own Offence, and 10 l. for the poverty of a Preacher or Teacher, there being no preaching or teaching, as the Informers pretended, as the Officers which kept us out of the Meeting-house did testifie before *Arthur Stanhope* Justice in *Mansfieldwoodhouse*, and several others affirmed the same, nevertheless the Informers went to *Robert Thoroton* and he granted a Warrant against the said *William Day*, and they took away from him a Mare and a Heifer, besides Pewter and Brass, and Beddding to the value of 14 l. 10 s. 4 d. *John Smith* of *Remson*, *Thomas Sharp* of *Newark*, *Joseph Wilkinson* of

Nottingham Informers; *Thomas Gristed* Constable, *Robert Howet* and *Henry Winfield* Wardens, *Ellis England* Thridborough; and the said *William Day* went to *Robert Thoroton* called Justice to let him know that he was wrongfully fined, and told him that there was neither preaching nor teaching, and if he would give him leave he could produce several that would testifie to the Truth of it, and the said *John Smith* Informer standing by said, *Did not widow Leadbeater go on with a Narration of words?* And *William Day* answered, that *what words she spoke was in answer to him*, and the Justice said, *If it was but one word, it was enough.* Witnesses to the Truth of this, *Bartholomew Mastin*, *Luke Hanke*, *Thomas Mee* and *Joseph Potter*.

Edward Wood of Ekrin, in the County of *Nottingham* Wheelwright, for Contempt of the *Ecclesiastical Court* at *York* (as is pretended, to answer *George Higgins* in a certain Cause of Tythes) was attached by a Warrant from *Penistон Whaley* and *Robert Thoroton* Justices, dated the 2d. of *March*, 75. and by Cerificate from *Henry Watkinson Official-principal* of the afore-said Court; and 37 s. was paid by *Richard Thomson* junior of *Ekrin*, for about 12 s. in the principal demanded.

Michael Embly of *Ekrin* had two Lands of Pease (worth about 13 s. being all he had) taken by *George Higgins* of *Ekrin* Impropriator, for the pretended Tythe of an Acre of Barley, whereof four Cocks & half he pretended due to him for Tythe.

Thomas Farnsworth of *Scaftworth* for being at a peaceable Meeting had taken from him five Cows worth about 14 l.

Robert Spauld for the same had five Cows taken from him worth about 13 l.

Robert Nicholson for the same had one Heifer, worth about 1 l. 3 s. 4 d. taken from him. *Zachariah Bower* for the same had one Cow taken from him worth about 2 l. 10 s. Witness *John Camsal*, *Thomas Denton*, *John Birks*, *John Glover*. The Officers Names that distrained, *William Chapman* Constable of *Eaverton*, *Edward Chapman* and *John Batts* Wardens, *John Rayner* and *Francis Williamson* Overseers, *George Gantley* Constable and Warden for *Scaftworth*.

John

John Seaton of *Blythe* for being at a peaceable Meeting was fined 20 l. and had four Oxen and one Horſe taken from him worth 22 l.

George Greaves for the ſame Meeting was fined 10 l. 5 s. and had four Cows taken from him worth 13 l.

John Wilſon for the ſame was fined 3 l. and had a Mare taken from him worth 4 l. 10 s.

Gervaſe Creaſe for the ſame was fined 10 s. and had fourteen pound of pewter taken from him worth 14 s. Diſtrained by Warrant from *Robert Thoroton*. The Officers Names are, *Robert Williamſon* and *Richard Malken* Conſtables, *Gervaſe Pye* and *Richard Emerſon* Wardens, *Henry Noedin* Overſeer, *John Brown* and *Thomas Moreſin* Thirdboroughs. Witneſs *Thomas Farnſworth*, *Joſeph Hudſon*, *John Couſon*.

John Torr of *Scrooby* for being at a peaceable Meeting was fined 5 s. for his own Offence, and 10 l. for the poverty of a certain Blind Man unknown, for one Meeting, and 1 l. fine for another Meeting, both Warrants amounting to 11 l. 5 s. and they took from him 4 Oxen worth about 14 l. 10 s. and another Warrant from Juſtice *Sands* for the ſum of 10 s. and 1 l. which the Officers run in Charges about ſelling the Oxen, which they had taken away by Virtue of the other two Warrants, more then they ſold the Oxen for, as is pretended; ſo they took an Heifer from him worth about 2 l. 10 s.

William Kirkby of *Geatforth*, for being at a peaceable Meeting, had taken from him ſeven Beaſts worth about 12 l. 10 s. By Warrant from *Robert Thoroton*. *Adam Hutchinſon* and *Charles Tollet* Conſtables, *William Brofit* and *George Norman* Wardens. Witneſs *John Raganal*, *Peter Ancliph*.

Note, *There was formerly taken on this Account, from ſeveral Innocent Perſons in this County, Goods and Cattle to the value of* 695 l. *and upwards; and two Perſons great Sufferers formerly, appealing to the* Seſſions, *they ordered them their Money again, but this great perſecuting* Juſtice, Peniſton Whaley, *fraudulently detains* 60 l. *in his Hands, contrary to the Orders of* Seſſions.

John Seaton of *Blythe*, for having peaceable Meetings at his Houſe to worſhip the Lord, was fined 20 l. and 10 s. for himſelf, and 35 s. for his Wife's being at four Meetings, and 5 s. for his Servant, in all fined 62 l. 10 s. and had his Goods diſtrained, *viz.* All his Houſhold Goods, Horſes, Mares, Kine and Swine, his Carts and other wooden ware, with old Wood, Stone and Brick, to the Value of 100 l. and upwards.

The Officers Names that diſtrained, *Robert Williamſon*, *Richard Malkin*, Conſtables; *Richard Emerſon*, *Gervaſe Pye*, Wardens; *Henry Nodin*, Overſeer for the Poor.

George Greaves of *Blythe* Shoemaker, for meeting peaceably at the Houſe of *John Seaton*, was fined for himſelf 40 s. and for the Poverty of ſeveral other Perſons, and four unknown, 4 l. 10 s. and they diſtrained of his Goods, as Bedding, Pewter, Shoes and Boots, by the above ſaid Officers, to the Value of 11 l. and upwards.

George Greaves for being at a peaceable Meeting at *John Seaton's*, was fined 10 s. and 3 l. by Reaſon of the Poverty of ſix other Perſons, and 10 l. by Reaſon of the Poverty of the Owner of the Place; and they took in Hay, Corn, Barley, Mault, one Mare, two Swine and a Calf, and Houſhold goods to the Value of 25 l. and upwards.

The Officers Names that diſtrained, *Richard Boulton* and *Robert Billyet*, Conſtables; *Gervaſe Pye* and *Richard Emerſon* Wardens; *John Malkin* and *Michael Judſon*, Thirdboroughs; *Henry Nodin*, Overſeer of the poor.

Gervaſe Creſſie of *Blythe*, being one of the Overſeers of the poor, for Neglect of his Office, becauſe he did not aſſiſt them in breaking up the Meetings of the ſaid People, was fined 5 l. for which Fine *Chriſtopher Snowdin* High Conſtable, took from him two Cows, and other Houſhold Goods, and one Bundle of Candle weke, in all to the Value of about 9 l. 4 s.

Henry Upton of *Harworth* for being at a peaceable Meeting was fined 20 s. for himſelf and his Wife, and 6 l. 10 s. by Reaſon of the Poverty of thirteen other Perſons named in the Warrant, and had two Oxen and three Cows taken from him, worth about 14 l.

William

William Kirkby for being at a peaceable Meeting in the high-way, the ſaid People being kept out of their meeting houſe, was fined 10 s. for himſelf, and 10 l. by Reaſon of the Poverty of the owner of the Place. For which Fine the Officers took from him ſix Beaſts and five Horſes and Mares, with the reſt of his Goods in the Houſe, to the value of 25 l. and upwards and ſold in the preſence of *Richard Champion*, *John Ridginal*, *John Wilſon*; Officers, *John Champion*, *Edward Tomlinſon*, Conſtables.

Joſeph Hudſon of *Matterſey* for being at a peaceable Meeting, was fined for himſelf 10 s. and 6 l. 5 s. by Reaſon of the poverty of twenty five unknown Perſons (then and there preſent, as the Warrant ſpecified) and the Officers diſtrained for the ſaid Fine, 5 Cows, 10 Swine, ſome Pewter and Braſs, 2 Beds with Furniture, and other Houſhold Stuff, and a parcel of Corn, and a parcel of Hay, to the value of 12 l. 10 s. by *Thomas Barker* Conſtable; *William Morley and Henry Ieſſop* Wardens. witneſs *William Broundley*, *George Goodyear*; All the afore-ſaid Goods and Cattle were diſtrained by Warrants granted by *Robert Thoroton*.

Thomas Farnſworth being impannelled upon a Jury at a *Court-Leet*, and becauſe he could not ſwear, was fined 3 s. 4 d and had a pewter Diſh taken from him worth about 4 s. 6 d.

John Birks for the like had a Flaggon taken from him worth about 5 s. 4 d.

Zacharias Bower for the like had two pewter Diſhes taken from him, worth about 6 s. Theſe taken by *Robert Graves* the Biſhop's Bailiff.

John Birks of *Scaftworth* for being at a peaceable Meeting with ſeveral other Friends, though kept out of the Meeting-Houſe, and driven into the Street, was fined 10 s. for himſelf, and 10 l. by Reaſon of the poverty of the Owner of the place, (though it was in the Street or High way) and he had taken from him five Cows, worth about 14 l. 5 s.

Zacharias Bower for the ſame was fined 10 s. for himſelf, and 10 l. for the poverty of the owner of the Place, and had taken

taken from him five Cows, worth about 15 l. by Warrant from Juſtice *Sands*. The Officers Names, *William Chapman* Conſtable; *Edward Chapman*, *John Bates* Wardens; *John Raynes* and *Francis Williamſon* Overſeers for the poor. Witneſſes, *Robert Spanold*, *Robert Nickelſon*, *Edward Ieptſon*.

Thomas Denton for being at the ſame Meeting fined 10 s. and had Goods taken from him to the value of about 17 s.

Thomas Farnſworth of *Scaftworth*, for being at peaceable Meetings was fined 10 s. for himſelf, and 3 l. for the poverty of 12 unknown Perſons; and by another Warrant 10 s. for himſelf, and 10 l. by Reaſon of the Poverty of the Owner of the Place, by Warrants from *Peniſton Whaley*, and his Goods were diſtrained and ſold; firſt, three Horſes, one Mare, two Cows, four Calves, one parcel of Rye and a parcel of Barley, two parcels of Hay, his Carts, Ploughs and Horſe-Harneſs, and other things in the Yard, at 28 l. 6 s. 4 d. Alſo within the houſe four Beds and ſeveral Houſhold Goods at 12 l. 4 s. 8 d.

John Birks of the ſame, for 20 s. Fine, had a Fillie taken from him, worth about 1 l. 15 s.

Zachariah Bower of the ſame, for the ſame Cauſe was fined 13 l and had taken from him ſeven Horſes and Mares, five Calves, three Carts, two Ploughs and one Harrow, with Horſe-Harneſs, Hay and Corn, and Wood at 20 l. 8 s. 4 d. Goods in the Houſe, as four Beds, Pewter and Braſs, and ſeveral other Goods worth about 16 l. 4 s. 2 d. by two Warrants from *Peniſton Whaley*. The Officers Names, *William Chapman* Conſtable; *John Raines*, *Francis Williamſon* Overſeers; *John Bates*, *Edward Chapman* Wardens; and *George Gantley* Conſtable of *Scaftworth*, all of *Everton*. Witneſſes *Robert Nickelſon*, *Edward Ieptſon*, *Robert Spanold*.

Henry Upton of *Harworth*, for being at a peaceable Meeting at *Blythe*, was fined 10 s. for himſelf, and 10 l. for the poverty of the Preacher (as they pretended) and the Officers made Diſtreſs & ſold all his Goods & Chattels which he had left, for the raiſing of the ſaid ſums, by Warrant from *Robert Theroton*. The Officers Names, *John Ellis* Conſtable; *Thomas Rowood* and *Robert Siſſans* Wardens; *Robert Fetherly* and *John Ellis* Overſeers:

Overseers: VVitnessed by *Bartholomew White* senior, *George Wagstaff*, *Charles Hopkinson*.

John Birks fined 20 s. for being at two peaceable Meetings, and had a Mare taken from him, worth about 40 s. *Thomas Denton* for a Fine of 5 s. had taken from him two Calves, worth about 40 s. by VVarrant from *P. Whaley*; witnes *Thomas Saintpall*, *Dorothy Gledge*.

Edward Hickson of *Tickhil* for being at a peaceable Meeting was fined for himself, and the Poverty of two others 30 s. and had taken from him an Heifer, worth about 3 l. 5 s.

John Lambert of *Tickhil* for being at a Meeting was fined for himself and the poverty of five more persons, 3 l. and they took from him an Heifer worth about 3 l. 10 s. by Warrant from *Ralph Knight*. The Officers Names that distrained, *James Houson*, *Samuel Scorar* Constables; *John Bradford*, *Richard Hole* Overseers; *William Lee* Church Warden; witnes *John Bradford*, *John Hickeon*, *Elizabeth Ties*, *John Fairfoot*.

Gervase Lambard for being at peaceable Meetings at *Blythe* was fined 40 s. by Warrants from *Peniston Whaley*, and they distrained his Goods, *viz.* Some Pewter, Brass, his Beds and Bedding, with some Leather and his Working Tools, with all other Goods in the House, with his Hay, to the Value of about 8 l.

John Camsal fined 30 s. for being at peaceable Meetings, and had taken from him some Corn in the Barn, with two Beds and Bedding, with other Goods to the value of about 10 l.

The Officers Names, *William Chapman* and *George Gantley* Constables; *Edward Chapman* and *John Baytes* Wardens; *John Raines* and *Francis VVilliamson* Overseers of the poor.

Witnesses, *Joseph Camsel*, *Thomas Saintpal*, *George Flecher*.

The 22d of the 10th Moneth, 1676. an Account of Goods then taken from *VVilliam Emley* of *Mansfield* in the County of *Nottingham* Mercer, for a Fine of 10 l. 5 s. for being at a Meeting the 17th Day of the same, at *Hacknal-Hoofet*, in the parish of *Suston* in *Ashfield*, and thereof convicted the 19th of the same, by *John Smith*, one *Sharp* and *Obadiah Anthony* Informers, before *Robert Thoroton* of *Carcouson*, in the Coun-

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ty afore-said, Justice, *viz.* 10 l. for the poverty of the Preacher, and 5 s. for himself, and by Warrant from the said *Robert Thoroton* directed to *Thomas Innocent* and *Francis Watson* Constables; *Richard Burbidge* Apothecary, *John Garner* Mercer, *Ralph Croshey* Dyer, *Thomas Wheat* Butcher, Overseers of the poor; *George Cook* Malt-maker, and *John Clay* Tanner, Church-Wardens; *John Plumtry* and *Thomas Clerk* Thirdboroughs, all of *Mansfield* in the County aforesaid; he had Shop Goods taken from him to the value of 23 l. and upwards.

George Hopkinson for being at the same Meeting was fined 10 s. for which he was distrained, by *Thomas Innocent* Constable, *John Plumtry* and *Thomas Clerk* Thirdboroughs, as followeth, one Coverlet worth 10 s. one pewter Candlestick worth 1 s. one Chair worth 4 s.

A Relation of a Notorious Piece of Deceit, acted by the Persecutors of these poor afflicted People called Quakers *in this County.*

Upon the 26th Day of the 9th Mo. 76. some of the said People being peaceably assembled together, in the parish of *Blythe* and waiting in Stilness and Silence upon the Lord, there came in amongst them one *Edward Butterworth*, who sate down a while amongst them, till the Informers came in, *viz. John Smith*, *Obadiah Anthony* and *Thomas Sharpe*; then *Edward Butterworth* stood up and said, *Blessed be the Peace-makers*, with some other words that were not understood, by Reason *Tohmas Sharpe* one of the Informers pulled him forth, the Constable meeting them near the Door, asked why they pulled him out? the Informer said, *If another speak I will pull him out also*, so the Officers had this pretended Preacher before Justice *Sands*, who upon Examination said, *He lived at* Broughton *within eight Miles of* Lincoln; but there being some Suspition that he was a Cheat, ordered the Officers to secure him, and to bring him before him again next Day; where before the said Justice *Sands* and Sr. *Ralph Knight*, being again examined he,

he ſtill ſaid, he lived at *Broughton*, and *Thomas Sharp*, one of the Informers being asked upon his Oath, whether he knew the ſaid *Butterworth*, did affirm, *He never ſaw him before in all his Life*; but a Certificate was produced before the Juſtices to prove they both lived in *Newark*, a Copy of which is as follows.

This may certifie whom it may concern, that we whoſe Names are under-written do teſtifie, that Edward Butterworth *and* Thomas Sharpe *of our Town of* Newark, *are very well acquainted, and very near Neighbours, living together in our Town, and both in a Street, moſt of our Town well know it.*

John Milnes.
Thomas Merryweather.

After Examination the Juſtices ſeeing their Deceit, committed *Butterworth* to *Nottingham* Goal, except he found Sureties to appear at *Redford Seſſions*, and as the Conſtable was conducting this pretended *Quaker* to the Goal, *Smith* and *Anthony* two of the Informers being with him, he rode away from the Conſtable; but about three Dayes after he went to Juſtice *Sands*, and *Obadiah Anthony* and *Thomas Sharpe* two of the Informers with him, who were bound for his Appearance at *Redford* Seſſions.

A ſhort Relation of the Proceedings of the Juſtices of the Peace, at Nottingham *Quarter-Seſſions, the Eighth Day of the Eleventh Moneth, 1676.*

Where many of the People of God, in Scorn called *Quakers*, came to appeal for Juſtice from the Illegal Proceedings of the Cruel Informers, who acted by Virtue of ſeveral Warrants granted forth by *Robert Thoroton* Juſtice of the Peace; there being about 20 Appeals which were promiſed to be tried at this Seſſions, and but three of them put in, the manner of their Trials was as followeth, as near as can be remembred.

Upon the 8th day of the 11th Mo. as afore-ſaid, the Court be-

ing ſate the Council for the Informers ſpoke to the Juſtices and the reſt of the Court, that *it would be a Diſhonour to the King, and to his Honourable Juſtices of Peace, that the Appeals ſhould be tried; for if they were, it was as much as if the Juſtices had not done according to Law, and if it ſhould be brought in for the Appellant, it would be a Diſhonour to them*, or Words to that Effect.

The Council for the Appellant, *It is not any Diſhonour to the King, or his* Juſtices, *but whether the Informers acted according to Law or no, that is the Queſtion; and if any look upon themſelves to be grieved contrary to Law, they may be tried by a Jury of twelve men, which the Law doth allow*; and further, he deſired the Tryals might be in the Informers Name, and not in the Name of the King, but it would not be granted. So when the Juſtices had ordered the Appeals ſhould go on to Tryal, a Jury was impannelled and ſworn, and the Warrant of *Robert Thoroton*'s Conviction of the Meeting at *Blythe* ſuch a Day, betwixt the King of the one Part, and *Iohn Sayton* and the other Appellants on the other part, by which Warrant the ſaid *Iohn Sayton* was fined 20 l. for ſuffering a Conventicle at his Houſe (as they ſaid) in the Pariſh of *Blythe*. So the Witneſſes were called and ſworn.

Witneſs, *I was there on that Day, and there were ſeveral People met, but were all ſilent, and no Words ſpoken amongſt them but did not ſee Iohn Sayton there.*

Council for the Appellant, Now in the firſt place, foraſmuch as there was neither Preaching, Praying nor Reading, as their own witneſs doth teſtifie, therefore it was no Conventicle.

2dly, Being they cannot prove he was there, therefore how can it be judged, that he did either wittingly or willingly conſent to that Meeting, if they could make it a Conventicle, with much more to that purpoſe.

Informers Council, Now as to the firſt, although there was neither Preaching, praying nor Reading, yet it was evident enough that they met under a pretence of a Religious Exerciſe, & ſeeing there was more then five, & not of *Iohn Sayton*'s Family, therefore it muſt needs be a Conventicle. And as to the 2d, ſeeing

ſeeing they cannot prove he was there, we muſt leave it to the Conſciences of the Jury, whether he did willingly conſent to that Meeting, or no.

So when the Council had ſpoke on both ſides, *Peniſton Whaley* one of the Juſtices, who ſate in the Chair, as Judge of the Court, ſtood up and ſpoke to the Jury to this Effect, and ſaid, *Although there was no viſible Exerciſe that can be proved, yet the* Quakers *ſay, they worſhip God in Spirit and Truth, and we know their Manner is, to ſit ſighing and groaning, and ſuch like dumb Actions*; and did very much labour to inſenſe the Jury (not like an Impartial Judge) and told them, *They muſt find it for the King*; and ſo the Jury went forth in Order to bring in a Verdict.

So another Jury was impannelled, in Order to a ſecond Tryal of *John Sayton's*, he being fined 20 l. more for a Meeting in the pariſh of *Blythe* as aforeſaid; ſo the Witneſſes being ſworn, their proceedings were much like the former, only one paſſage is to be taken Notice of, concerning one *Thomas Sharp* an Informer, who not long before did forſwear himſelf before a Juſtice of Peace in the County, and Evidence being ready in the Court upon his Oath to teſtifie the ſame, in Order to invalidate his Evidence, was called to know what he could ſay concerning *Sharp*, but the informers Council would not ſuffer him to ſpeak to that Matter, but inſtead thereof, asked the Witneſs ſeveral enſnaring Queſtions, and *Sharpe's* Teſtimony was taken.

Counſellor *Leake* being for the Appellant, asked the ſaid *Thomas Sharpe, Whether he was to have part of the Fine by the Oath he had taken?* and he ſaid, *Nay*: He was then asked, *What he did at* Blythe *that day, and what was his Buſineſs?* and he anſwered, *To look after Meetings.* So this we leave to ſober People, to judge whether he was concerned or nay, he being one of the Informers.

Note alſo, That *John Sayton* was above Sixty Miles from home the ſame day that he was fined 20 l. as was made appear in open Court by ſubſtantial Evidence.

So the Jury went forth, and the firſt Jury immediately came in with a Verdict.

Then they were asked, *If they were all agreed?*

Jury, And they said, *Yes.*

Court, *Who shall speak for you?*

Jury, *Our Fore-man.*

Court, *Do you find it for the King or for the Appellant?*

Jury, *For the Appellant.*

Upon this Verdict coming in, *Penistone Whaley*, one of the Justices (the rest of them being pretty moderate) bid them *Go forth again*; but one of the Jury-men stood up & said, *They were agreed, and they had considered it very well*; whereupon he fell into a great Rage, and flung off the Bench, and said, *You deserve all to be Hanged*, and said, *they were as ill as Highway-men*, and Cursed them, and further said, as if *He hoped the King would take away Iuries, for this way will not do.*

Then Lawyer *Athrop*, the Appellant's Atturney, answered and said to the Court, *You know how Iudges have been reproved for threatning Iuries, and striving to force them contrary to their Consciences*, or words to this purpose.

So the second Jury came in, and was asked, *If they were agreed?*

They said, *Yes.*

Court, *Do you find it for the King or the Appellant?*

Jury, *For the Appellant.*

Which Verdict was to the great Satisfaction of most people, who had heard or known of the Informers Cruelty and Ungodly Proceedings.

Upon the nineth day, being the next Morning, the Court sate, again, and proceeded in order to a Tryal of *William Hudson's* of *Little-Greenley*, near *Redford*, for which he stood convicted by *Robert Thoroton*, and fined 20 l. and *William Hudson* was called, and did appear, and was bidden to come up to the Bar, but as he was coming up, one pulled off his Hat, and *Penistone Whaley* seeing that, bid *give the man his Hat again*, so *William* put it upon his Head, and for so doing *P. Whaley* fined him 5 l. and committed him to Prison, and said, *We need no Iury for that.*

Note

Note, That these two former Juries were impannelled by the Sheriff according to Law, being all substantial Men, without Exception when they were sworn, and only intended to try the Causes depending; but the judicious Care of the Jury men not suting the Humour of some of the Justices in bringing in their Verdicts the day before, must now all be turned off, and to work they go to impannel a new Jury to answer their Ends; and one *Billige* was called and placed the Fore-man, which is or hath been Bailiff to *P. Whaley*, and one *Howett* that is his Clark, and others whom they pleased. So the Jury being sworn, and the Witnesses also, which were two Informers, viz. *Thomas Sharpe* and *Obadiah Anthony*, and another poor man, which did say, *We saw many people met together about sixteen, but they were silent, without speaking any words*; *but they could not say, they saw* William Hudson *there*. *Thomas Sharpe* was asked, *If he knew* William Hudson? and he said, *Yea, and that is he*, pointing at one, of which several took notice of him, *William Hudson* being then in Prison [A Notorious Forsworn Informer.]

The Appellant's Council seeing their Illegal Proceedings in impannelling another Jury, whom they pleased, and would not admit of any Exception, nor have regard to Law, would plead no more, but did forthwith rise up, and said, *If this be your Law, I have done*, or words to that purpose.

But the Informers Council made use of his Silence and Departure to their own unjust Ends, & wronged him, saying to the Jury, *You are upon the Matter of Fact, and you see the Case is so clear that their Council hath nothing to say; therefore you need not stand long about it, but bring it in for the King.*

So the Jury went out, but notwithstanding their illegal choice of them, in hopes of a speedy and free Verdict to answer their Ends, yet it proved far otherwise, as will be manifest in the sequel.

For after they had waited a long while, and the Jury came not in, they sent a Bailiff to know *if they were agreed*? then he returned and said, *They are not agreed, and they think they shall not agree.*

So when they had waited very long, and had done their other Buſineſs, they ſent again to them, *That if they would have Information in matter of Law, they would inform them*: So the Bailiff brought them into the Court, and *Peniſtone Whaley* ſaid, *Are you agreed?* and *Billidge* the Foreman ſaid, *We are Eight that would bring it in for the King, and there are Four that will not agree thereto.* Peniſtone Whaley, *Why, what Four are theſe that will not agree?* One of them ſtood up and ſaid, *In the firſt place, I am not ſatisfied that* William Hudſon *did wittingly and willingly conſent to the Meeting at his Houſe; and 2dly, there being neither preaching nor praying, nor any viſible Exerciſe of Religion, it cannot be a Conventicle.*

The Informers Atturney ſaid, *That as concerning it being a Conventicle, the* Quakers *themſelves did grant, and ſeveral of them that were at that Meeting had paid their Fine.*

Note, This was falſe; for none that were at that Meeting had paid any Fines; but by virtue of *Robert Thoroton's* Warrant the Officers and Informers had taken their Goods, and becauſe they did not put in their Appeals, this is called a Confeſſion of the Fact.

And ſo they went out again, but could not agree, and about Eight by the Clock at Night one of the four being weak, and ill of a Cold, and wanting Refreſhment, ſomething condiſcended, partly through the Threats of *Peniſtone Whaley*, threatning them, who ſaid, *If they could not agree, there they were likely to ſtay until they dy'd, and as one dyed they would chuſe another, until they were all Dead.*

So at laſt they delivered in a Private Verdict againſt the Appellant, after the Court was adjourned, which the Juſtices receiving, charged the Jury to appear the next day at *Newark*; Seſſions in open

Note, *Moſt of the Juſtices at* Nottingham *Seſſions carryed things moderately, except* P. Whaley; *but at* Newark Robert Thoroton *and* Peniſtone Whaley, *and the reſt that ſate on the Bench, were bent againſt the Innocent, as with one accord.*

Court

Court: So the next day the Jury appearing at *Newark*, some of them being dissatisfied with what was done, desired to know of the Justices, *If it was not lawful to go out again, that they might consider better of it, in regard they had agreed to a private Verdict, because they were threatned to be kept without Meat Half a Year, and believing the other part of the Jury would have more Liberty?*

But the Justices told them, *It was not lawful to do it, but was a Cheat to be King, and a Dissembling with God Almighty.* But the Appealant's Atturney desiring to prove the Lawfulness of it, was threatned to be *Bound to his Good Behaviour if he spoke any thing before the Verdict was delivered in open Court.* So at last they were forced again to condiscend, and the Verdict was given in against the Appealant, although it was contrary to their Consciences, being Forced thereunto, as some of them declared in open Court, and to this day some of them remain dissatisfied.

So the Court being now sate at *Newark*, and a Jury impannelled in order for another Tryal of *William Hudson*, he being the Appealant, the Goaler gave *William Hudson* leave to be there.

The Jury being now impannelled, *Pen. Whaley* gave his Judgment, and said, *Although that there were no words proved as Preaching, it must be found for the King, if you believe they were met to worship God; for* (said he) *some worship one way, and some another, and the* Quakers *Worship is dumb Worship.*

And *Robert Thoroton* (another of the Justices) said, *The* Quakers *Worship is with Sighs and Groans which cannot be uttered.*

Whereupon one of the Jury-men desired to be satisfied, for said he, *It may be they met not to worship God, but were sate Sighing and Mourning for their Abominations.*

Robert Thoroton replyed, *That's the* Quakers *Worship, the Wickedest Thing in the World.*

But said the Man, *I would gladly do Equity.*

Robert

Robert Thoroton replyed, *YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH* * *EQUITY.*

* *How ſhall the Oppreſſed come to have Juſtice done them, when the Court they appeal to told the* Jury, THEY HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH EQUITY!

So they went out, and ſome of the Jury being not ſatisfied concerning the Meeting, being it was in Silence, did think to have found it for the Appealant, as they have confeſſed; but preſently they procured one *Obadiah Anthony*, an Informer, who told them, *That there was Preaching, and they were kneeled down upon their Knees*: So then they concluded againſt the Appealant. This one of the Jury-men confeſſed; and the ſaid *Obadiah Anthony* was ſeen with the Jury by *John Sayton* and *Samuel Ell* of *Newark*, and *Francis Hawoth*, and many others, and one of the Bailiffs ſtanding by with a Candle. So when the Jury brought it againſt the Appealant, then they gave *William Hudſon* his Liberty.

So complaint being made to the Court, *That the Informer was allowed to be amongſt the Jury, which made Thirteen*; their Anſwer was, *Charge the Bailiff to look better to the next.*

Alſo, when *John Sayton*'s Appeal was tryed at *Newark*, the Foreman of the Jury, *William Arnall* by name of *Carcouſon* (*Robert Thorton*'s Neighbour) did much Rail in the Court againſt the People called *Quakers*; and one heard him ſay, *I will ſerve the* Quakers *turn this time*; *we will be troubled with them no more.*

Several that were called upon the Jury they excepted againſt, and ſhewed no Cauſe why, and would have none but ſuch as were ready to anſwer their Cruel Ends.

So the Appealants ſeeing their illegal Proceedings, and that wrong Judgment proceeded from them that ſate in the place of Juſtice, notwithſtanding all that was ſaid or ſpoken, and although they cryed for Juſtice, they could not be heard; and if the Appealants Atturney (having no man elſe to plead for them) did ſpeak any thing contrary to their Wills, either by excepting

excepting againſt any of the Jury (which the Law allows, if Cauſe be ſhewed) or any other thing that they did not affect, although lawful, he was threatned to the *good behaviour*, or ſome other Opprobious Terms; ſo that now having got their Deſire upon the Innocent, they went on without Controle; and the Jury being levened by them, what Appeals were afterwards tryed, were brought in againſt the Appealants, who having now no other to appeal unto, but Almighty God, did wholely commit themſelves, with what they have, into his Hands, being fully ſatisfied it is for his Name's ſake they now ſuffer; and whoſoever ſo looſeth either Houſe or Lands, or any other thing, ſhall in this Life receive a Reward, and in the World to come Life Everlaſting.

Juſtice *Whaley* ſaid at *Newark* Seſſions to the Jury, That *if they did believe that the* Quakers *did meet to* MAKE MARRIAGES *or* TURN PAN-CAKES, *they might find it for the Appealant; but if to* WORSHIP GOD, *they might find it for the King.*

Priſoners in the County of *York*, as followeth.

Joſhua Smith excommunicated for not taking the Oath of a Warden, pronounced by *Henry Watkinſon* Chancellor and a *Capiendo* ſued out by *Thomas Holme* Proctor, committed the 13th day of the 9th Moneth, 1673. where he ſtill remains in the Caſtle of *York*.

Chriſtopher Stockton committed to the Caſtle of *York*, by *William Rayley* Knight, and *Francis Driffield*, both Juſtices of the Peace, in the *North-Riding* of *York* ſhire; their Warrant grounded upon a Statute of *Henry the 8th*, bearing date, the third of the nineth Moneth, 74. and by Certificate from the Judge of the *Conſiſtory-Court* at *York*, *Henry Watkinſon* cer-

 tifying

tifying his Excommunication, and this done at the ſuit of *Thomas Flather* Prieſt of *Leſſingham*, for Subſtraction of Tythes.

Nicholas Raw committed to priſon by him called *Lord St: Johns* and others, by a *Significavit* of his being excommunicated, at the ſuit of *Tobias Weſt* Prieſt of *Grunton*, their Warrant bearing date the 7th of the 9th Moneth, 74.

Chriſtopher Walkinton of *Hutham* committed to Priſon upon a *Capias* for nonpayment of Steeple-houſe Tax, and other Contempts of the Church ſo called, the 8th of the 11th Moneth, 74. *Robert Squire* Proctor.

Joſeph Trevis of the pariſh of *Owtherne* arreſted by *William Marſhal* Apparitor, with a *Capias* ſued out by *Robert Squire* Procter, and committed the 20th of the 11th Moneth, 1674. where he yet remains.

Peter Simpſon of the pariſh of *Hampſthwaite* ſued in the ſpiritual Court, ſo called, at *York* by *Samuel Sugde* Prieſt of the ſaid Pariſh, decreed excommunicate by *Henry Watkinſon* Judge of the Court, and a *Capias* ſued out by *Thomas Holms* Procter, attached by *George Haxby* of *Hampſthwaite* Apparitor, and committed the 1ſt day of the 12th Moneth, 74.

William Hudſon ſued in the ſpiritual Court, ſo called, for nonpayment of Steeple-houſe Tax, by *Richard Bolton* Warden, and at his own Charge, attached by *Chriſtopher Morley* Apparitor by a *Capias*, and committed the 8th day of the 11th Moneth, 73. where he ſtill remains at the City Goal.

Matthew VVildman of *Celſide*, in the pariſh of *Horton* in *Craven*, and County of *York* Husbandman ſued in the ſame Court by *Thomas VVilſon* of *Becroftbar*, in the pariſh aforeſaid Impropriator, for Subſtraction of Tythe, and for his Contumacy in not appearing to Citation, was decreed excommunicate by *H. VV.* Chancellor, and a Writ ſued out by *Thomas Holms* Procter, and attached by *Robert Banks* of *Gigleſweek* Yeoman and Appariter, and committed the 12th of the 3d Moneth, 75. where he yet remains.

Thomas Appleton of *Huttonrudsby* Yeoman preſented in the Biſhop's Court for not going to the Steeple-houſe to hear

Divine-

Divine-Service, ſo called, and not receiving the Sacrament, and for his Contumacy in not appearing to the Citation, was decreed excommunicate by *Henry Watkinſon* Judge of the *Conſiſtory-Court*, and a *Capias* ſued forth by *Francis Parker* Procter in that called the Spiritual-Court, and attached by *William Stockdel* Appariter, and committed to the Caſtle of *York* the 7th day of the 5th Moneth, 75. where he ſtill is a Priſoner.

Gervaſe Key of the pariſh of *Kirkburton* was ſued in the aforeſaid Court by *Joſeph Brigs* Prieſt of *Kirkburton* afore-ſaid, in a Cauſe of Subſtraction of Tythes, and becauſe he could not give in his Anſwer to his Libel upon Oath, was by the Judge pronounced contumacious, and certified to *John Armitage* and *John Key* Knights, and *Francis White*, all Juſtices, by Warrant committed him the 8th of the 5th Moneth, 75.

Edward Goor of *Thornton*, near *Pocklington* Husbandman was preſented in the afore ſaid Court, and for not appearing to Citation was excommunicated, and by a *Capias* attached and committed (though old and infirm) the 15th day of the 5th Moneth, 1675.

Richard Carr of *Scamſton*, near *New-Malton* Husbandman was preſented in the afore-ſaid Court for not receiving the Sacrament, and going to hear Divine Service, ſo called, for which he was cited, and not appearing, pronouced contumacious, and decreed excommunicate, and a *Capias* ſued out by *Arthur Thornton* Regiſter to the Biſhop, by which he was attached, and committed to priſon the 21th day of the 6th Mon. 75.

Edward Evans of *Nunmonkton* near *York* Yeoman was preſented in the Biſhop of *Cheſter*'s Court, by the Wardens, and cited to appear at *Richmond* before *Thomas Cradock* Official, and for not appearing decreed excommunicate, and a Writ ſued forth by *Thomas Lee* Procter, and attched by *James Hague* and *William Syres* ſenior Bailiffs, by Warrant dated the 9th of the 5th Moneth, 75. and committed the 28th day of the 6th Mon. 75.

Honora Skipwith of *Skipwith* Widow preſented in the Bi-

ſhop's Court at *York* for not receiving the Sacrament and going to hear Divine Service, ſo called, was thereupon decreed excommunicate, and a *Capias* ſued forth by *Arthur Thornton* the Biſhop's Regiſter, and attached by *William Saire* and another, Bailiffs, and committed to priſon the 23d of the 7th Mo. 75.

John Leightfoot of the pariſh of *Skipwith* Husbandman preſented upon the ſame Account, and decreed excommunicate and a *Capias* ſued out by the afore-ſaid *Thornton*, and taken by the ſame Perſons, and committed the 23d of the 7th Moneth, 75.

John Green of *Leverſedge* Yeoman in the pariſh of *Birſtal*, preſented in the Biſhop's Court at that time called *Eaſter*, in the Year 1674. by *Thomas Taylor*, *Robert Walker*, *Matthew Smith*, *John Mann* and *Iſaac Brook* for not going to the Steeple houſe and receiving the Sacrament, ſo called, and thereupon cited, and appearing to the Citation was decreed excommunicate, and a Writ ſued forth by *Arthur Thornton*, and attached by *Chriſtopher Morley* and *William Stockdale*, and committed to *York* Caſtle the 26th day of the 8th Moneth, 1675. and dyed in priſon.

Thomas Mitton of the *Chapelrie* of *Ripandin*, in the pariſh of *Ealand* Husbandman, was preſented in the Court afore-ſaid by *Samuel White*, *Richard Royd*, *Joſiah Siddel*, *John Bothomley* and *Joſeph Hoyle*, for not going to the Steeple-houſe and receiving Bread and Wine, and thereupon cited, and not appearing to the Citation was excommuicate, and a Writ ſued forth by *Arthur Thornton*; he was committed to priſon the 26th of the 8th Mon. 1675.

William Keddy of *Hutham* Husbandman, preſented in the afore-ſaid Court for not going to the Steeple houſe & receiving the Sacrament, ſo called, was excommunicated by *Henry Watkinſon* Judge, and a *Capias* ſued forth by *Robert Squire* Procter, and committed to priſon the 3d of the 11th Moneth, 75.

Chriſtopher Wharlton preſented in the Biſhop's Court at *York* and for not appearing to Citation decreed excommunicate, and

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a *Capias* sued out by *Robert Squir*, Procter the 3d of the 11th Moneth, 75.

William Blossom of *Patrington* Cooper presented in the aforesaid Court and for not appearing to Citation decreed excommunicate by *Henry Watkinson* Judge of the Court, and a *Capias* sued out by *Robert Squire* Procter, and committed the 5th day of the 11th Moneth, 75.

Thomas Billany presented in the Bishop's Court afore said, and for his not appearing to Citation, decreed excommunicate by the Judge afore said, and a *Capias* sued out by *Robert Squire* Procter, committed the 5th day of the 11th Mon. 75.

Richard Hancock presented in the afore said Court, and not appearing to Citation decreed excommunicate by the Judge of the afore-said Court, and a *Capias* sued out by the aforesaid Procter, and committed the 5th day of the 11th Moneth, 75.

Samuel Wright of *Nedlington* Grasman in the parish of *Holden*, sued in the Bishop of *Chester*'s Court by *Lanc. Clark* and *John Hewson* parish Clarks of *Holden*, for their Sallery, which at the first was voluntary; their Demand was 4d. and not appearing to the Citation was decreed excommunicate by *Joseph Cradock* Knight Official principal of that Court, and a *Capias* sued forth, and committed the 9th Day of the 10th Mo. 75.

Samuel Pool of *Knottingley* Yeoman sued by one *John Bingley*, on the Behalf of the King and himself, for a Debt of 40l. which the said *Bingley* saith, he owes to the King and himself; and by a Writ attached and committed to *Pontefract* Goal the 18th day of the 11th Moneth, 1675. where he yet remains.

Thomas Parkin of *Eloughton* Husbandman presented in the Bishop's Court at *York*, and for not appearing to Citation decreed excommunicate, and a *Capias* sued forth by *Thomas Holms* Procter; committed the 7th of the 12th Moneth, 75.

Mary Brockbanck of *Farndale* near *Kirkby-More-Side* in the County of *York* Widow, aged near fourscore, was sued by *Thomas Hardwick* Priest of *Kirkby-more-side* for Substraction of Tythes, and attached by an *Exchequer* Writ, and committed to *York-Castle* the 29th of the 8th Moneth, 74. where she yet is

Henry

Henry Tarret preſented for Non payment of Steeple-houſe Tax, and not appearing to Citation decreed excommunicate, and a *Capias* ſued out by *Robert Squire* Procter, and committed the 28th Day of the 12th Moneth, 75.

Francis Lund, *Thomas Salkel*, & *Thomas Wilkinſon*, all of *Dent* in the County of *York*, but of the Dioceſs of *Cheſter* were ſued in the Court at *Richmond*, by *Leonard Burton* Prieſt of *Sedbergh* for Eaſter-Reckonings, which according to their Coſtom is but 1 d. 1 ob. *per head*, and for their not appearing to citation, were by the aforeſaid *Cradock* Official decreed contumacious, and a *Capias* ſued out by *John Newton* Procter, and attached by *Robert Banks* Appariter, and committed the 8th Day of the 2d Moneth, 1676. where they yet remain.

William Redſhaw committed to the *Caſtle* of *York* by *Henry Godrick* Juſtice of Peace, at the Requeſt of *Henry Watkinſon* Judge of the Spiritual Court, for his pretended contumacy to the Decrees of the ſaid Court, as ſaith the *Mittimus*, committed the 15th day of the 5th Moneth, 76.

Iſabel Milner Widow preſented for her Non-conformity, and for her not appearing to citation, decreed excommunicate, and a *Capias* ſued out by *Thomas Holms* Procter, attached by *William Stockdel* Appariter, and committed the 10th day of the 10th Moneth, 76.

Joſeph Denton Batchellor, near *Leeds*, preſented for his Non-conformity, and for his not appearing to Citation decreed Excommunicate, and a *Capias* ſued out by *Tho. Holms* Procter, attached by *Will. Stockdel* Apparitor, committed the 17th of the 11th moneth, 1676.

David Nutbrown of *Holden* Linnen-Weaver, preſented in the Biſhop of *Cheſter*'s Court, and a *Capias* ſued out by *Th. Lee* Procter, and attached by *William Marſhal* Apparitor, committed the 18th day of the 11th moneth, 76.

John Lukis of *Eaſingwod-houſe* Carpenter, preſented in the Biſhop's Court for his Non conformity, and for not appeariug to Citation was decreed Excommunicate, and a *Capias* ſued out by *Arthur Thornton* the Biſhop's Regiſter, and committed the 21th of the 10th moneth, 75.

All theſe ſtill continue Priſoners in the County of *York*.

Dyed

Dyed in York-*Caſtle ſince the* 4th *Moneth*, 1675.

John Brockbank, Son to the before-named *Mary Brockbank*, and as Servant to his Mother, yet ſued with her, and caſt into Priſon; he Dyed the 8th of the 8th Moneth, 75.

Richard Long ſued for Tythes; Dyed the 25th of the 3d moneth, 76.

William Brockbank Dyed about the middle of the 8th mon. 1675.

John Green for Non-conformity Dyed the 11th of the 5th Moneth, 76.

William Doughty preſented by an Informer, one *Anthony Atkinſon* a Butcher in *Thorn*, ſued out a *Capias*, and another Writ for 20 l. a Moneth, both at the Informers Suit; he Dyed the 5th of the 10th Moneth, 76.

Devon-ſhire.

Robert Welch of *Uſculum* ſued for the Non-payment of Tythes to *James Holloway* Impropriator of the ſame Pariſh, and in the 11th moneth laſt was by him caſt into Priſon by a Writ *de Excommunicato Capiendo*.

Note, And in the Year 1674. this *Holloway* ſued *Robert Welch* for Tythes, and though he was kept cloſe Priſoner for the ſame, yet that did not ſatisfie this Perſecutor's Cruelty, but he cauſed as many Peaſe to be taken out of *Robert*'s Field as were worth 2 l. and not long after removed him to *London* by a *Habeas Corpus*, and at the Aſſizes following got an Execution out againſt him, and took away from the ſaid *R. Welch* ſix Oxen, three Cows and one Horſe, worth 42 l. the value of Tythes claimed being but 7 l. and ſtill detains him in Priſon beſides.

Note

Note, *They returned two of the Oxen again, ſo that what they kept was computed to be worth* 34 l.

On the 10th of the 9th Moneth, 1676. for a Fine of 7 l. 15 s. to be levyed on *James Taylor*, for being at a Silent Meeting in *Burliſcombe*, there was taken of Tenants Goods on his Ground twenty Sheep and two Cows, worth 16 l. by Warrant from Juſtice *Waldrond*, Juſtice *Bere* and Juſtice *Sainthill*, *Edward Hurley* and *Nicholas Dowdney* Conſtables, *Robert Croſs* and *Nich. Colman* Church-wardens, *John Sealey* and *Triſtram Dune* Overſeers, *Henry Rew* a Conſtable and *Jo. May* Informers; which Goods were ſold for about 8 l. 10 s. to one *Capron* of *Sampford-peverel*.

Alſo, by the ſame Officers there was taken from *Clement Colman*, for being at the ſame Meeting, the value of Ten Shillings.

Alſo, from *Gawen Taylor*, for being at the ſame Silent Meeting, the value of 10 s.

By the Officers of *Burliſcomb*, by Warrant from the ſame Juſtices, there is taken from *George Ruſſel*, for being at the ſame Silent Meeting, Houſhold Goods to the value of 30 s.

And many other Warrants are out from the aforeſaid Juſtices, to diſtrain the Goods of many other Perſons, for being at the aforeſaid Silent Meeting.

Alſo. their *Meeting-Houſe* was by Conſent of the ſaid Juſtices ſeized upon, and kept from them by Force.

Priſoners at Exon *in* Thomas's *Pariſh*.

James Taylor, the ſame time they came for his Goods for being at the Silent Meeting, as aforeſaid, he was taken up on a Common Proceſs, at the Suit of Juſtice *Bluet* and *Richard Peacock* on the Account of Tythes, & ſent to the Sheriffs Ward, where he is now a Priſoner.

Joan Pollixphen of *Kingsbridge*, who hath been a Priſoner three Years the 15th of the 11th Moneth laſt paſt. for the value,

as

as is supposed, of about 4 or 5 s. in Tythes, by *Samuel Norcott* a Priest, she being first served with a Subpœna by one *Christopher Batten* a Bailiff, yet she not near him, but was in another County, and for not appearance came forth a Process against her, and took her up, and cast her into the Sheriffs Ward, where she yet remaineth.

Elizabeth Phillips by the same Priest was sent to the same Prison on the Account of Tythes, where she hath been a Prisoner three Years, and now the last Week, at the turning of the Ward she was freed.

William Wilcott and *Thomas Burgin* Dyed in the Sheriffs Ward this year, both sent in on the Bishop's Account, for not going to the Steeple-house.

Sufferers in *Bedford-shire*, 1676.

John Barton of the Parish of *Studham* in the County of *Hartford* Taylor, being rated to a *Church levy*, as they call it, 2 s. 2 d. it being demanded by *Nathaniel Fisher* Warden of the Parish, and for refusing to pay the said *Nath. Fisher* did sue out a Writ of *Excommunicato Capiendo*, and did himself with a Travailer which he imployed, Arrest the said *John Barton* in *Hartford-shire*, and haled him by Force into *Bedford-shire*; *Bridget Hall*, *Mary Impie* and *Ann Barton* being Eye-witnesses of the same; and carryed him to *Bedford* Goal, where he hath remained prisoner one Year and fifteen Weeks, notwithstanding he hath a Wife and Six Children.

Henry Newman of *Seawell*, in the Parish of *Hanton-Regis* in the County of *Bedford*, Husbandman, being rated to a *Church-Levy*, as they call it, 13 d. or thereabouts, and for refusing to pay it the Wardens returned his Name to *William Foster* Commisary, & was Arrested with a Writ of Excommunication, and the 7th day of the 4th moneth, 1676. by *Edw. Groom*

Groom an Apparritor, and was carried to *Bedford* Goal, where he hath remained a Priſoner ever ſince.

Thomas Ballard of *Elſtow*, in the County of *Bedford*, Husbandman, being Arreſted by *Robert Hawkins* Bailiff, at the Suit of *Thomas Hilerſdon* of *Elſtow*, in the ſaid County, for not paying Tythes, was had to Priſon, where he hath been a Priſoner ſeventeen Weeks.

Sufferers in *Cambridge-ſhire*.

TAken from *John Prime* of *Willbrom* quond. upon the Account of Tythes, the 18th day of the 8th moneth, 1675. by *Thomas Whithand* Prieſt of the ſame Town, Wheat, Rye and Barley to the value of 18 l. 7 s. 4 d.

Taken from *Philip Tayler* of *Cottenham*, by Warrant from *Thomas Buck* Magiſtrate of *Weſtwick*, for being at a Meeting at the Houſe of *Robert Mittins* at *Swanſey*, the 2d day of the 2d moneth; and for being at another Meeting at *Oakington*, at the Houſe of *Matthew Beezley*, the 14th day of the 3d Moneth, by Warrant from the above-ſaid *Thomas Buck*, for a Fine of 5 l. 10 s. Three Cows, to the value of 10 l 10 s, the Informers were *Stephen Perry* of *Cambridge* and *Thomas Gilby* of *Blunſom* in *Huntington-ſhire*; the Conſtables *Will. Meadle*, *Thomas Smith* and *Stephen Fulſton*: Theſe Goods above-mentioned were diſtrained upon the 29th of the 7th Moneth, 1676.

Taken from *Matthew Beezley* of *Oakington* for a Meeting at his Houſe upon the 2d day of the 2d moneth, 1676. by Warrant from *Thomas Buck* of *Weſtwick* Magiſtrate, for a fine of 9 l. three Cows and one Horſe to the value of 11 l. 10 s. the Goods were ſtrained upon the 24th of the 5th mon. by *William Crosbee* and *Stephen Linton* Conſtables, *Stephen Perry* Informer of *Camb.* *Thomas Gilby* of *Blunſom* in *Huntingtonſhire*.

Upon

Upon the 20th day of the 1st Moneth, 1676. *George Tay.lor* of *Chesterton* was carryed to Prison to *Cambridge* Castle by *Christopher Wilson* Bailiff, by a Writ *de Excommunicato Capiendo*, sued out by *William Linnet* Priest of the same Town, and remains Prisoner to this day for Tythes.

Upon the 13th Day of the 11th Moneth, 1676. *John Wash* Tayler of *Castle-Camp*, was carryed to Prison by *John Bargin* Bailiff, upon an Attachment by Priest *Holles* of the same Town, where he remains a Prisoner to this day for Tythes.

Upon the 19th of the 5th Moneth, 1676. *John Prime* of *Willbrome* quond. was carryed to Prison by *John Curbey* Bailiff, by an attachment at the suit of *Thomas Whithand* of the same Town, Priest, where he remains a Prisoner to this day for Tythes.

Upon the 2d day of the 6th moneth, 1676. *Gabriel Walker* of *Swofham-Bulback*, was carryed to Prison by *Abraham Akerson* Bailiff, by a *Capias Capiendo*, at the suit of *John Sowerby*, Priest of the same Town, for Tythes.

Robert Rull of *Rampton*, a Prisoner for small Tythes.

Sufferers in *Norfolk* the 22d Day of the 10th Moneth, 1676.

William Barber of *Gissing* in the County of *Norfolk*, Prisoner upon a Writ *de Excommunicato Capiendo*, at the suit of *John Gibbs* Priest of *Gissing*, who was arrested the 17th day of the 7th moneth, 1674. for a small matter of Tythes, who remains a close Prisoner.

John Norris and *Henry Peed* of *Northwalsham*, Prisoners upon a Writ of *Common-pleas*, at the suit of him called Esquire *Beacher* Impropriator, were committed to the Castle of *Norwich* the 15th day of the 3d moneth, called *May*, 1675. for Tythes. Also, they had a Writ of *Excommunicato Capiendo* laid upon them the 19th day of the 4th moneth, called *June*, 1675. at the suit of *Thomas Clendon* Curate, in the Name of *Henry Gooch* Vicar of *Northwalsham*, for small Tythes and Offerings, where they now remain Prisoners.

John Hart and *Matthew Bacon* of *Northwalsham*, Prisoners upon a Writ of *Excommunicato Capiendo*, arrested the 24th day of the 5th moneth, called *July*, 1675. at the suit of *Thomas Clendon* Curate in the Name of *Henry Gooch* Vicar of *Northwalsham*, for small Tythes and Offerings, and are there kept Prisoners.

Francis Gardiner of *Tivitshall* in the County of *Norfolk*, a Prisoner by an Attachment out of the Exchequer, was arrested the 24th day of the 6th moneth, called *August*, 1675. at the suit of *Christopher Burrel* Priest of *Tivitshall*, for Tythes, and brought to the Castle of *Norwich*, where he now remains a Prisoner.

Bartholomew Howling of *Shipdam* in the County of *Norfolk*, committed to the Castle of *Norwich* upon an Assize-*Process* in the 6th Moneth, called *August*, 1676. and three dayes

dayes after he was in custody there was brought in upon him a Writ of *Excommunicato Capiendo*, where he now remains.

Nich. Phillips hath been a Prisoner about Nine Years for Tythes, at the suit of *Edward Barnard* Priest of *Diss*, and also a Scissions *Process*.

Matthew King, *William King* and *Stephen Wicks*, are Prisoners for Tythes, and have so continued Fourteen or Fifteen Years, or more.

Francis Dix of *Great-Ellingham* in the County of *Norfolk*, was arrested about the 11th moneth, 1669. by a *Common pleas* Writ for Tythes, at the suit of *Henry Harman* Farmer to the Impropriator, who lives at *London*, and brought to the Castle at *Norwich*, who notwithstanding his Imprisonment, was sued to an Out-lawry by the said *Harman*, and being stopt, he brought a Tryal down to *Thetford* Assizes in the year 1676. and had trebble Damages given him, which was 28 l. 16 s. for which there was taken from him by the Bailiffs of the Hundred, Cattel and Goods to the value of 40 l.

Mary Satterthwait of *Pullam-Market* in the County of *Norfolk*, Widdow, was sent to *Norwich* Castle the 20th day of the 3d moneth, 1676. at the Suit of Doctor *Starkey* (so called) Priest of the same Town, upon a Writ of *Excommunicato Capiendo*, who is since released.

Thomas Mathewman of *East-Deerham* in *Norfolk*, was arrested the 28th day of the 5th moneth, 1676. for Tythes, at the suit of *Richard King* the Impropriator, and brought to the Castle at *Norwich* a Prisoner, in which Imprisonment he was brought to his Death the 7th of the 9th moneth following, whose Wife through tending of him and watching with him, it being a Noisom Place and Cold Season, shortly fell Sick, and Dyed the 17th of the 10th moneth following, whose Blood cryes against the said *Rich. King* Impropriator.

Taken from *Samuel Pyke* of *Hingham* in the County of *Norfolk*, in the Year 76. for Tythe for the said Year, by the Servants of *Robert Sippins* Priest there, of Winter Corn and Summer Corn to the value of 3 l. 10 s.

Sufferers

Sufferers in Norwich.

On the first of the moneth called *March* last, *John Shapen* jun. for being at a peaceable Meeting to wait upon God, in *Norwich*, the 27th of the 12th moneth last, had taken from him, by one *Be—* and *John Stone* Constables, by a Warrant from *John Manser* then Mayor, *John Tennyson* and *Charles Tennyson* Informers, 5 pair of Shoes called Flyers and a Cake of Tallow.

Ditto *John Fedman*, for being at the same Meeting, had taken from him, by *William Poole* Constable, goods worth 8s. 6d.

John Dilerance, for the same Cause, had Goods taken worth 10 s. for a Fine of 5 s. by *Edward Trull* Constable, *William Chessen* Overseer, and *Tho. Leman* Church warden.

Ditto, *Anthony Alexander*, for being at the same Meeting, was fined for himself, and the third part of 20 l. for the House, and had as many Splightings or Hides taken out of his Fats as were worth 8 l. 17 s.

Note, Erasmus Cooper *entering* Anthony's *House, in a suddain surprizing manner, said to the Man's Wife, who was big with Child*, He came to seize all she had for the King. *She said*, That was hard, to seize all for 7 l. fine. *He replyed*, He would not leave her a Bed to lie on. *And he went to the Shop Door, and finding it lock't, he fetcht a Pickax, and broke it open, and he and the rest of his Companions were so Cruel and Unneighbourly, that it caused Tears to trickle down the Cheeks of some of the Neighbours, who beheld them; the Names of his Assistants are* Nic. Becket *Constable*, Rob. Clark *Warden*, Edward Cullier *Overseer*, Edw. Makins *and* Richard Pye.

In the 3d moneth last, the same Officers, accompanyed with two others (viz.) *Isaac Wolfil* and *Nath. Ponder* Overseers, went into the Yard of the said *Anth. Alexander* privately by the Criek side in a Boat with a Warrant from *J. Manser* Mayor and *Francis Bacon* Steward, for the third part of 20 l. being a Fine imposed on him for the Cause aforesaid, for which they took

took 7 dozen of Calf-Skins worth 8 l. 8 s. and commanded his Man to assist them to pull the Ware out of the Fats, which he refusing to do, they gave him abusive words; *Anthony* said, *It was unreasonable to require the Man to assist in taking his Master's Goods from him*; Rob. Clark answered, *They were their Goods.*

Robert Hutchison, on the 4th of the 5th moneth last, for being at a Meeting, had Houshold-Goods taken away to the value of about 7 s. by Warrant from *Tho. Cheskering* Mayor, by *Rich. Lusbrook* and *John Allen* Constables, and *John Freeman* Warden, and *Christopher Hastead* Overseer.

Samuel Duncon, in the 5th moneth last, had taken from him for meeting to worship God, Houshold goods and Wares to the value of 42 l. 19 s. 5 d. by Warrants signed by *Francis Bacon* and *John Manser* Mayor; and *John Crow* and *Gamaliel Sugden* Wardens, *Tho. Southgate* jun. *Edw. Mayhew* Overseers, *William Poole* pretended Constable, *Charles Tennyson* Informer, *Tho. Giddens* Carter, *Tho. Woods*, *John Brown* and *Robert Phebee* Helpers, together with the *Hang man.*

Note, *The aforesaid Officers took Possession of* Samuel Duncon's *House, and there kept Night and Day, from 7th day in the afternoon till 2d day in the afternoon, loading away his Goods, as if they had been their own, & breaking up Locks at their Pleasure, keeping* Samuel's *Wife, who was big with Child, as a Prisoner in her own House the first Night, not suffering her to speak with any so much as at the Door, nor any to come to her till some of the Magistrates being spoken to to abate it (for Shame and Cry of the People) ordered it.*

And the Reader may take notice of the Insolency and Vileness of one of the aforesaid Informers, who boastingly said, *He would make the Mayor wait upon him as often as he would at his Pleasure*: Oh a sad Age! that such ungodly, vile, idle, prophane Men should be encouraged thus to vaunt themselves against, or rather over the Magistrates of this Nation, whose Sword in Justice ought to be a Terror unto them, they being Evil-doers in the Sight of the just God, who hates Oppression, and in the Sight of just Men; and its to be lamented, that under

der Officers are forced to proceed in making Havock of their peaceable Neighbours Goods againſt their Conſciences, to ſatisfie thoſe greedy Informers; as witneſs the aforeſaid *Pool* Conſtable, when he went with the Informer to the Meeting in *Norwich* the 16th of the 5th month, & hearing the Truth declar'd, he cryed with Tears in his Eyes, *What ſhall I do? I know the Power of God is among you*; and told the Informer, *That if there were a Curſe hung over any people upon Earth, it was over the Informers*; and ſaid to S. D. afterwards, *That he confeſt he had ſinned againſt his Conſcience in doing what he did.*

And Note *further, That ſince the taking of the ſaid* Samuel Duncon's *Goods,* John Tennyſon, *one of the ſaid Informers is laid up in Priſon upon an Execution for Debt; and he hath confeſt,* He never proſper'd ſince he took in hand that Work; *and ſaid,* He knew not what to do; *and ſaid,* If he were at Liberty, he would never meddle more. *So people may ſee how badly his Ill-gotten Goods proſper with him.*

Note, John Crow *would not ſuffer an Account to be taken of the Goods he & the reſt of them took away of* Sam. Duncon's, *but when a Man was taking an Account, he ſcatched it from him, and put it in his Pocket; and the ſaid* Crow *finding* Sam. Duncon's *Shop ſet open the Second Day in the Morning, ſhut it up again himſelf; thus acting like Plunderers in Time of War, which is a Shame to Magiſtrates, that they ſhould ſuffer ſuch things in Times of Peace.*

Since the other Account, *Nich. Becket* Conſtable, *Rob. Clark* and *Robert Sellers* Wardens, *Nathanael Ponder* Overſeer, by Warrant from *Tho. Chickering* Mayor (for a Fine of 10 l. impoſed upon *Anthony Alexander* for the Meeting houſe) did with the Help of *Andrew Cooper* and *William Drayton,* carry away from the ſaid *Anthony* 15 Splitings, worth 9 l. 15 s. four Horſe-Hides 1 l. 10 s. and 11 couple of Wombs worth 14 s. 8 d. in all to the value of 11 l. 19 s. 8 d.

Sufferers

Sufferers in *Westmoreland.*

Dorothy Middleton of *Lupton*, within the Parish of *Kirby-lonsdale* and County of *Westmoreland*, an ancient Widow of the Age of Sixty four Years, was sued in the Bishop's Court of *Chester*, by *Henry Hoyle* Priest of *Kirbylonsdale* afore said, for Easter Reckonings demanded by him to the value of 3 s. by the year for three years; and upon a Writ of *Excommunicato Capiendo*, was for the same arrested, and carryed to Prison at *Appleby* in the said County, the 24th day of the 12th moneth, called *February*, in the year 1675. and hath there remained Prisoners ever since, which is about eleven Moneths.

Thomas Moor of *Newbiging*, in the afore-said Parish of *Kirbylonsdale*, was also sued in the same Bishop's Court, by the same *Henry Hoyle* Priest aforesaid, for Easter Reckonings, demanded by him to the value of 1 s. 6 d. and upon an *Excommunicato Capiendo* Writ was for the same arrested, and carried to Prison to *Appleby* aforesaid, upon the 29th day of the 12th moneth, called *February*, in the year 1675. and hath remained Prisoner there ever since, which is about eleven Moneths.

Note, *Although the afore-said* Henry Hoyle *Priest is about four Moneths since Dead, yet nevertheless the aforesaid* Dorothy Middleton *and* Thomas Moor *are upon the same Suit and by the same Writ yet detained Prisoners in the Gaol of* Appleby *afore said.*

Thomas Garnm of *Camsgil*, within the Parish of *Burton* and County aforesaid, was sued in the Bishop's Court of *Chester* by *John Ormred* Priest of *Burton*, for Easter Reckonings and Midsummer Dues (so called) by him demanded to the value of about 6 s. by the year for two years, & upon an *Excommuni-*

cato

cato Capiendo Writ was arrested, and carryed to Prison at *Kendal* in the said County the 27th day of the 11th moneth in the year 1674. where he remained about three moneths; and being but about Four Miles from his own House, his Wife and Children, and Friends had the conveniency often to visit him; but therewith this Priest *Ormrod* was so Vexed and Troubled, being filled with Envy and Cruelty, that he prevailed with the under Sheriff, one *Allan Prickatt*, to remove him to the Common Goal at *Appleby*, being about Sixteen Miles from his own House, where he hath remained Prisoner these Two Years.

Sufferers in the County of *Berks*, the 27th of the 11th Moneth, 1676.

Robert Pain of *Sunning*, and *John Pain* of the same, arrested for Tythe at the suit of *Samuel Christopher* Priest of *Sunning* above-said, and carryed to *Reading* Goal the 13th of the 4th moneth, 1674. where they remain still Prisoners.

William Dobson of *Brightwell* arrested for Tythe at the suit of *Ralph Whistler*, and carryed to *Reading* Goal the beginning of the seventh Moneth, 1675. and remains still a Prisoner.

Thomas Davie, *George Ball*, *Richard Nash*, *Thomas Pretty*, *Thomas Draper*, *William Ward*, *John Wyron*, all of *New-Windsore*, arrested by *Walter Condry* under Goaler the 13th day of the 11th moneth, 1675. by a Writ of *Excommunicato Capiendo*, for not going to the Steeple house, and not paying to the Repair of it, and not receiving the Sacrament, being rated as followeth, viz. *Thomas Davie*, 3 s. *George Ball*, 2 s. 3 d. *Richard Nash* 4 d. *Thomas Pretty*, 3 d. *Thomas Draper*, 2 s. 7 d. *William Ward*, 4 d.

John

John Wyron, 3 s. 4 d. all carryed to *Reading* Goal, and remain ſtill Priſoners.

Taken from *Samuel Burgis* of *Brimton*, for 4 l. 18 s. 4 d. demanded for Tythe by *Thomas Worral* Prieſt, a Mare worth Ten Pounds, the 26th day of the 3d moneth, 1676. by *Richard Smith* Bailiff.

Sufferers in *Lanca-ſhire.*

UPon the 14th of the 11th Moneth, 1675. *John Backhouſe*, *Robert Hubberſty* and *Francis Fleeming*, all of them of *Yelland*, within the County of *Lancaſter* Husbandmen; and *William Waithman* and *James Waithman* both of *Lyndeth* within the ſaid County Husbandmen, and all five within the pariſh of *Warton*, were ſerved with a Writ out of the *Exchequer*, at the ſuit of *Hugh Phillips* of *London* Farmer of the Tythes of the Rectory of *Warton* afore ſaid, under the Deacon of *Worceſter*) by *Gawen Hewtſon*, *Samuel Fiſher*, *Robert Watſon* and *Hugh Read* Bailiffs, who required their Bond for Appearance, but they being not free to give Bond, were returned to the Common Goal at *Lancaſter*, where they remain Priſoners yet; Witneſſes to the Truth of this are, *John Smith*, *John Hubberſty*, *Edward Rawlinſon* and *William Huginſon*.

Roger Hairſnep of *Aughton* Husbandman was ſued in the Biſhop of *Cheſter*'s Court for Tythe, by *Alexander Bagerly* Prieſt of *Aughton*, and for not appearing according to the Order of the Court, was apprehended upon Contempt, by Order from *John Eutwiſtle* of *Ormskirk* and *William Holme* of *Keirſley* Juſtices, and carried to *Lancaſter* Goal the 17th day of the 7th Moneth, 1675. where he remains Priſoner this 10th of the 11th Mon. 1676.

Upon the 15th day of the 7th Mon. *Roger Haydock* of *Coppel* within the pariſh of *Standiſh* Husbandman, was ſued by *Ralph Briddock* Biſhop of *Chicheſter* for Tythes, and by Warrant from

from *Roger Bradſhaw* called Juſtice, and *Nicholas Penington* Mayor of *Wiggan*, committed to the Common Goal at *Lancaſter*, where he remains Priſoner, the ſaid Biſhop having writ to the Goaler, as alſo to the Judge of the Aſſizes, called *Francis North*, who ſtrictly Charged the Goaler, he ſhould not let the ſaid *Roger Haddock*, nor any of the *Quakers* have Liberty, ſo that not only the ſaid *Roger Haddock*, but ſeveral other Brethren were debarred of Liberty through the Inſtigation of the Biſhop.

Upon the 6th Day of the 3d Mon. 1675. *Heskin Fell* of *Coppel* was at the ſuit of *Ralph Briddock* Biſhop of *Chicheſter*, for Eaſter Reckonings, upon his Denyal to take an Oath called *Juramentum Militia*, apprehended by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of *Roger Bradſhaw* called Juſtice, and *Nicholas Penington* Mayor of *Wiggan*, and committed to the Common Goal at *Lancaſter*, where he remains Priſoner.

Upon the 13th of the 9th Mon. 1676. *Robert Walker* of *Boulk* Woolen Weaver was apprehended and impriſoned at the ſuit of *Edward Garthforth* Prieſt of *Lancaſter*, by a *Significavit* from the Court of *Richmond*, for ſmall Tythes, where he now remains a Priſoner, for his Teſtimony againſt that Prieſthood that takes Tythes.

Sufferers for Meeting to worſhip God.

Upon the 14th day of the laſt 12th Moneth *Thomas Tomlinſon* of *Croſſmore* had taken from him for a Fine of 5 s. for himſelf being at *Freckleton*, and 6 l. 13 s. 4 d. for the pretended Poverty of another, Three Beaſts worth 11 l. 10 s. by *Mat. Kerkham* Conſtable of *Freckleton*, *George Nickſon* Warden, and ſome other Officers, who after they had drove the Beaſts about 2 Miles, ſold them one to the other for 8 l. 10 s. This was by Warrant from *Edward Rigby* of *Preſton*, called a Juſtice, a great Perſecutor, who threatned, *He would root out the* Quakers *out of the* Hundred *wherein he dwelt*, and ſaid, *All the Laws as yet made againſt the* Quakers *were too ſhort, he would have a Law that they ſhould be tied and dragged, either at a horſe*

or

or cart tayl, and that he would be one of the first that would move for it in Parliament.

Henry Tomlinson of *Crossmore* White-Smith, by the same VVarrant, for being at the same Meeting, had distrained from him Goods worth above 5 l. 10 s. by the same Officers, the Priest of *Kirkham* being Informer.

John Townson of *Racliffe*, by VVarrant from the afore said *Edward Riggby* and another Justice, had two Cows taken from him worth 5 l. 10 s. for being at the same Meeting, by *John Bernard* Constable of *Racliffe*, *Henry Carter* Overseer of the poor, *Thomas Hankinson* and others, Officers.

Alexander Salsbury of *Leagram*, the 19th Day of the 9th Moneth 1676. for being at a peaceable Meeting of the Lord's people at *Thomas Garner's*, *Alexander Powel*, called a Justice, granted a VVarrant to make Distress of his Goods for a Fine of 20 l. being informed against by *Adam Knowel* and *John Burton* Informers, and that he was teaching or preaching at the said Meeting. whereupon the Officers, *viz. Nicholas Walbank* Constable, and *Hugh Dobson* Overseer of the poor, took from him Four Oxen worth 17 l. 10 s. and another time the same Officers took from him Seven Beasts worth 21 l. 10 s. And the 20th of the 10th Moneth the same Officers took from the said *Alexander Salsbury* Four Cows worth 21 l. VVitnesses hereof, *William VValbanck*, *Richard Birlow*, *James Hamber*.

Charles Lee of *Clitheroe* Labourer, had taken from him (for a Meeting at his House the 1st Day of the 8th Moneth, 76.) Four Horses, with Load-Saddles, Collars, Wanties and Overlaies, worth 14 l. One Cow and a Calf, worth 5 l. 6 s. 8d. One Yearling Heifer and Three Calves, worth 7 l. 5 s. The Constables Names that took them were *John Dugdale* and *Edmund Rogerson*, *Edmund Robinson* Apothecary Church-warden, *John Page* Husbandman Overseer of the poor.

An

An Account of ſuch as are Impriſoned for the Truth's ſake in *Huntington*-Goal the 6th of the 12 Mo. 1676.

THomas *Aſhton* of *Brampton* in the County of *Huntington*, was attached the firſt of the 2d Moneth, 1675. for the Non-payment of Tythe [that grand Oppreſſion] at the ſuit of *William Swepſon* Impropriator, and was had to *Huntington* Goal, where he ſtill remains Priſoner. It is ſuppoſed the value of what he is charged with by the ſaid Impropriator is about 50 s. or 3 l. for Lamb and Wool ſome years paſt.

William Newberry of the ſaid Town of *Brampton*, in the County of *Huntington*, was attached at the ſuit of the ſaid *William Swepſon* Impropriator, and was had to Priſon about the 27th Day of the 7th Moneth, 1675. where he ſtill remains Priſoner for the value of 4 s. 4 d. *per ann.* for ſome years paſt.

Note, *Both of them above-mentioned were impriſoned for Contempt, for not anſwering the Bill exhibited againſt them; and their Corn and Hay have been forcibly taken away in this the time of their Impriſonment.*

Robert Spalton of *Chatterice* in the Iſle of *Ely*, was arreſted at the ſuit of *William Strong* (Prieſt of the ſaid Town of *Chatterice*) about the 1ſt of the 2d Moneth, 1675. for ſmall Tythes, and being arreſted in the County of *Huntington* was had to *Huntington* Goal, where he remains Priſoner to this day.

John Beadles (within the Liberty of *Ramſey* and County of *Huntington*) was arreſted the 20th day of the 7th moneth, 76.

at

at the ſuit of *Silveſter Titus* (commonly called *Colonel Titus*) Lord of the Mannor of *Ramſey* and Impropriator (for Tythe ſuppoſed not to be above 25 s. according to the uſual Rate) and was had to *Huntington* Goal, where he remains a Priſoner to this day.

George Clapham of *Brampton*, in the ſaid County of *Huntington*, was had to Priſon upon a Biſhop's Writ for not appearing at the Court, & non payment of Tythes, by *Ol. Pocklington* Prieſt.

Nathaniel Nicholl of *Wooley* in the ſaid County of *Huntington*, was carried to Priſon the ſame time for Contempt of the Court, in not appearing (by the ſame Writ) and for not going to the Steeple-houſe, they were both had to *Huntington* Goal the 7th of the 12th moneth, 76. where they continue.

And there are ſeveral other Biſhop's Writs out againſt ſeveral more in this County, but not as yet executed, &c.

At a Meeting of the People of the Lord, at the Houſe of *Amy Peacock*, of *Erith*, in the County of *Huntington*, upon the 23d of the 2d Moneth, called *April*, 1676. a Perſon being there that was moved by God's Eternal Power to preach the Everlaſting Goſpel, with wholſome Exhortations to the Fear of the Lord; there came into the ſame Meeting theſe Informers, viz. *Stephen Perry* of *Cambridge*, *Thomas Gilbie* of *Bluntſham*, and *John Potto* of *Somerſham*, who having been a long Seaſon in an Ale-houſe, came into the ſaid Meeting like mad-men threatning and pulling People, not regarding either Age or Sex to the Hurt of ſome Women there preſent, and being demanded of a Friend (*Jaſper Robins* by Name) what Authority they had for their ſo doing? They replied, *They had a Commiſſion from the King to break up the Meeting*. The aforeſaid *Jaſper* ſpeaking to the Conſtables, that came with the Informers, to keep the Peace, and if any of them had a Warrant from any Juſtice, Friends would obey; and the ſaid Informers pretended they had one, but it appeared they had not, but came in their own Wills, in that violent drunken Spirit: So they going away in a Rage, eſpecially againſt the aforeſaid *Jaſper*, becauſe he deſired the Conſtables to ſet them in the Stocks for their drunken Behaviour; and ſome Weeks after went to one *John*

Tryce

Tryce of *Godmanchester* (a Juſtice) and made a Complaint that the aforeſaid *Iaſper* had ſpoke certain Evil Words againſt the King (*Yet*) invented only in their own Evil Hearts, and then alſo informed of the ſaid Meeting, ſo that the ſaid *Iaſper Robins* and others were fined, and he the ſaid *Iaſper* bound to anſwer their Complaint at the next Quarter-Seſſions; and he knowing his own Innocency therein, and that the Conſtables and others were preſent when they pretended he ſpake theſe Words, offered his Traverſe to the Court, which upon the third Quarter-Seſſions was obtained, and the Matter being heard, their Wickedneſs was manifeſted, and the Jury gave in their Verdict, that the ſaid *Iaſper* was *not Guilty*.

Tobias Hardmeat of *Fenſtanton* for the ſame Meeting for himſelf, and the pretended poverty of the Preacher, was fined 10 l.

Thomas Parnel of *Ripton-Regis* for the ſame Meeting, for himſelf and the pretended poverty of the Preacher, was fined 10 l.

Benjamin Thornley of *Erith* for the ſame Meeting was fined 5 s. Goods taken away worth 5 s.

Edward Chriſtenwheat of the ſame, fined 5 s. Goods taken worth 5 s.

Thomas Cook of the ſame, fined 5 s. Good taken worth 5 s.

Richard Baſſe of *Erith* for the ſame fined 5 s. Goods taken worth 4 s. The Officers that diſtrained were *Thomas Eull*, *Richard Ferilis* Conſtables, *Thomas Skeiles* Overſeer.

William Prior of *Somerſham* (being a young man, and newly come out of his Apprentiſhip, and very poor as to the outward, inſomuch that he had very little but his wearing Clothes) was fined for the ſaid Meeting 5 s. for which *William Wingrave*, *Edward Ratford* Conſtables, *John Goule* ſenior, *Stephen Dawood* Vardens, *Thomas Smith* and *William Bonnum* Overſeers Officers of the ſaid Town manifeſted their Cruelty in taking away his Clothes, and leaving him nothing of his mean Apparel, but one Hoſe, he being in Bed, inſomuch as he was neceſſitated to borrow Clothes to cover his Nakedneſs till he had wrought for more: His Clothes taken were valued at 10 s.

William

William Bavin of *Bluntſham* for the ſame Meeting fined 5 s. three Swine taken from him to the value of 34 s.

At a Meeting at *Erith* the 3d of the 10th Moneth, called *December*, 76. Friends were kept out of their Meeting houſe by the Conſtables and Officers of the ſaid Town, and by men they had appointed for that work that Day; and Friends ſtanding in the Street, about the middle of the Meeting came *Stephen Perrey* of *Cambridge*, and *Thomas Gilbie* of *Bluntſham*, two of the aforeſaid Informers, who although they ſtand guilty of Perjury in the Sight of God and Good Men, yet upon Information upon Oath to *Nicholas Iohnſon* a Juſtice (ſo called) that there was a Meeting in the Gate-Houſe of *Amy Peacock* of *Erith* aforeſaid, though in Truth no Perſons were in the Gate-Houſe, but their own Family, yet the ſaid *Nicholas Iohnſon* being one by whom they are (and have been) encouraged, iſſued out his Warrants upon the Oaths of theſe inſufficient Witneſſes, *viz.* theſe two Informers.

Whereby one *Thomas Cooke* of *Erith* that had but one Cow left him, had her taken away, by Warrant from the aboveſaid *Nicholas Iohnſon*: And the ſaid *Thomas Cook* knowing the ſaid Witneſs had ſworn falſly againſt him, went with an Appeal to the ſaid Juſtice *Iohnſon* his Place of Reſidence at *Somerſham* in the ſaid County of *Huntington*, but he having ſold his Habitation is ſometimes a Sojourner at *Cambridge*, ſometimes at a publick Houſe at *Somerſham* aforeſaid, ſo no Appeal could be had, and the ſaid *Thomas Cook* making his Appeal to the Bench at the next Quarter Seſſions, his Paper of Appeal was taken, but no Anſwer was given to it, but he lyeth under the ſaid Suffering without Redreſs.

Samuel Nottingham of *Ramſey* for the ſaid meeting, for himſelf was fined 10 s. & for the pretended Poverty of *Amy Peacock* Owner of the Gate-Houſe, wherein they falſly ſwore the Meeting was, was fined 4 l. 10 s.

For which Fines, by Warrant from the ſaid *Nicholas Iohnſon*, *Lawrence Farmer* alias *Beard*, *Henry Adray* Conſtable, *William Booth* and *John Evans* VVardens, *Robert Burrowes*, *William Hanes* and *James Sharp* Overſeers of the poor for the ſaid

Town of *Ramſey*, for the Fines of 5 l. took away Four Cows, worth 10 l. or more, notwithſtanding he told them that it was a falſe thing by which he was proſecuted, or to that Purpoſe, and further, that he was kept out of *Amy Peacock*'s Gate-Houſe expreſſed in their Warrant, by Conſtables and Officers, and that the Informers were forſworn, and the Street was the Place in which the Meeting was kept that Day; and on the 19th of the 10th Mon. 76. being the next Day after they had diſtrained, he went with one of the Conſtables to the ſaid *Nich. Johnſon*, where he was at an Alehouſe in *Somerſham* upon that Occaſion, and one of the Informers (viz. *Thomas Gilbie*) with him, waiting for their Prey; and the ſaid *Samuel* told the ſaid Juſtice how foully and falſly they had proceeded againſt him, and that the Informers were forſworn, and the Informer being then preſent could hardly deny the Truth of what he ſaid; but the ſaid *Nicholas* being forward and ready in the Execution of that Work, the ſaid *Samuel* telling him, he was by a Rail in *Erith* Town Street, betwixt which and the Gate Houſe above mention'd there is a broad paſſage for people to go along, then ſaid the ſaid *Nicholas Johnſon*, being (as is ſaid before) willing to keep up the Informer for Unjuſt Gain to them both, *I* (ſaid he) *dare ſwear you were in the Gate-Houſe*: & it is probable the ſaid *Nicholas* was Seven or Eight Miles diſtant at that time, and therefore very unable to ſwear any ſuch thing.

And upon the Teſtimony of the aforeſaid falſe Witneſſes many other Warrants are iſſued forth from the ſaid *Nicholas Johnſon*, for levying Fines for the ſaid Meeting, and the Conſtables and Officers preſſed upon by him to make Service thereof, but they at preſent forbear, as being ſenſible of the falſe Witneſs given in by thoſe wicked Informers aboveſaid.

Sufferers in *Surrey*.

Ambroſe Rigg was committed to Priſon from the Seſſions at *Croyden* by *Stephen Harvy*, the Judge there, the

the eleventh day of the eleventh moneth, 1676. because for Conſcience ſake he could not pay 11 s. 6 d. for Fees.

William Bowman, *Henry Franklin*, *Joan Stringer* Widow and *Rebecca Almond*, were taken from their Dwellings by *John Fiſher* Bailiff, and committed to Priſon, and from thence carryed to the Seſſions held at *Croyden* the day and year above ſaid, becauſe for Conſcience ſake they could not pay 3 s. apiece, impoſed upon them there by *Stephen Harvy* Judge, for three firſt dayes Abſence from the Steeple-houſe, and were committed cloſe Priſoners in the *Marſhalſes*, where they remain to this day.

John Blatt and *John Hatcher* were brought to Seſſions by *Richard Bonnick* Bailiff.

Richard Stubbs committed the ſame time for the ſame thing, who remains a cloſe Priſoner to this day.

Thomas Seaman Was committed to Priſon upon a Writ of *Capias* about the middle of the 6th moneth, 1676. being preſented by the Wardens of the Pariſh of *Sheer*, becauſe he could not go to hear *Thomas Duncomb* Prieſt there, where he ſtill remains to this day.

Thomas Woods and *John Woods* were committed to Priſon upon a Writ of *Capias* about the middle of the 7th moneth, in the year afore-ſaid, being preſented by *John Chandler* and *John Tuerſly* Wardens of the Pariſh of *Wittly* in *Surrey*, becauſe for Conſcience ſake they could not pay to the Repair of the Steeple houſe.

Stephen Smith and *Richard Baker* were committed to Priſon at the Suit of *Gabriel Offley* Prieſt of *VVorpleſdon*, becauſe they could not pay him Tythes, about the 20th of the 9th Moneth, 1676.

All theſe were committed to the *Marſhalſes* Priſon in the Burrough of *Southwark*, where they remain this day, being the 25th of the 11th moneth, 1676.

Lincoln County.

UPon the 24th day of the 1st moneth, 1675. *Alice Bunby* Widow of *Potter-Hanworth*, for suffering a Meeting of the people of God called *Quakers*, was (by a Warrant under the Hand of *Christopher Nevill* of *Harmston*, in the County aforesaid (called *Knight*) fined 20 l. and had four Oxen, one Horse and one Mare taken from her, with Yoaks and Teams, as they were going to plow, and (she being but a Friendly Woman) was forced to pay the 20 l. The Names of the Constables were *Thomas Hutchinson* and *Will. Almond*, *Thomas Brexton* and *Thomas Sumpter* called Church-Wardens, *John Makender* and *Will. Almond* Informers, who informed the Justices, that they heard a Young man speak *Lord* and *Christ*, or such like words.

Edward Bunbed, for the same Meeting, had a Mare taken from him (by the Constables, Church-Wardens and Overseers of the Poor of *Hanworth* aforesaid) worth 5 l. sold at 4 l. and returned back again 30 s. for a 4 l. Fine.

Nicholas Johnson of *Hanworth* aforesaid, had for a 4 l. fine four Cows taken from him worth 9 l. and were sold for 4 l. and had 30 s. returned; both these were taken by the same Officers that took the Widow *Bunby*'s Cattle.

Lincoln *City*.

Abraham Morrice of the City of *Lincoln*, Mercer, being at the said Meeting, had a Fine imposed upon him by the said Justice of 10 l. for the Speaker unknown, and 5 s. for himself, which the said *Christopher Nevill* certified to *Joseph Ledington* then Mayor of *Lincoln*, who forthwith issued his Warrant to *Benjamin Harinson* Constable, *William Hodgkinson* Church-Warden, and *Robert Coppy* Collector, who upon the first day of the second moneth, 1676. came into *Abraham Morrice*'s

Morrice's Shop, and took as many pieces of Stuff as cost him 19 l. 7 s. 8 d. upon which the said *Abraham* entred his Appeal, which was tryed at *Sleford* Sessions the 4th day of the said Moneth, but no Justice could be had; for some of the Tenants and the Constables of *Auber* and *Harmston* were put upon the Jury, which two Towns at times *Chr. Nevil* doth dwell in, who put one *John Coddington* (who many years had been his Hired Servant, and now his Tenant) the Fore-man of the Jury; there was but one Informer at the Sessions, which *Nevill* perceiving did not answer his Desire, came off the Bench, and took his Oath, *The Information which he there shewed upon the Bench was true*; upon which the Jury gave it against the Appellant; But since that time, the said *John Coddington* Foreman coming from *Newark*, fell from his Horse, and Dyed in a day or two after.

Witness *Nicholas Mitchel* and *William Morrice*.

Prisoners in Lincoln *Goal.*

James Dixon of *Crowle* imprisoned by a Writ *de Excommunicatio Capiendo*, bearing date the 13th Day of the Moneth, called *July*, 1674. for not appearing at the Bishop's Court at *Lincoln*.

Thomas Everat alias *Everard* and *Robert Berryer* of *Crowl*, both imprisoned for the same cause by the same Writ, bearing the same date.

William Edlington of *Crosland* imprisoned for the same Cause, the 3d of the Moneth called *April*, 1674.

Katherine Cliffe imprisoned by an Attachment out of the Court of Exchequer, bearing date the 21th day of the moneth called *February*, 1675.

John Baldock of *Wainfleet* imprisoned by a Writ of *Excom. Capiend.* for not paying to the Repair of the Steeple-house, the 20th day of *December*, 1675.

Henry Wilson committed to Prison for Non-payment of Tythes to *Perrigry Moor* Priest, by a Warrant dated the 21th of the moneth called *March*, 1672.

Thomas Wreste imprisoned upon an Attachment out of the Ex-

Exchequer for Non-payment of Tythes, the Attachment dated the 3d of the 6th Moneth, called *Auguſt*, 1674.

Robert Reeder impriſoned for Non-payment of Tythes at the ſuit of *Robert Bernard*, the Warrant dated the 15th day of the 2d moneth, called *April*, 1674.

Thomas Brown impriſoned by an Attachment out of the Exchequer for not paying Tythes, the Attachment dated the 29th of the 3d moneth, called *May*, 1676.

Sufferers in *Cumberland*, the 5th of the 12th Moneth, 1676.

THomas *Bewly* of *Halicliff* Hall, of the Age of Seventy Eight Years and upwards, impriſoned by an Attachment out of the Exchequer for Non-appearance at the ſuit of *Arthur Savage* of *Caldbeck* Prieſt, for Tythe-Wool, Lamb, White-Book, and ſome Preſcription; for his Ground payeth no Tythe in kind: The ſaid *Thomas* ſuſtained Seven Years and Four Moneths Impriſonment, at the ſuit of the ſaid Prieſt, for the ſame pretended Tythe above-mentioned; and when the ſaid *Thomas* was at Liberty, the ſaid Prieſt ſued him for the *Preſcription-Money*, as he alledgeth, 3 l. and cauſed the Bailiff (*Robert Prieſtman*) to diſtrain his Feather-bed, that he and his Wife lay on, with all Clothes thereunto belonging, and a Cupboard, worth 5 l. and when the Bailiff could not get theſe things ſold, he ſued the Bailiff, and forced him to pay the Money and Coſts. The ſaid *Thomas* was committed to priſon this ſecond time the 21th of the 9th moneth, 1674. and hath continued more then Two Years, having had no Real nor Perſonal Eſtate in his Hand this Five Years.

George Bewly, eldeſt Son of the ſaid *Thomas Bewly*, by vertue of an Attachment and Proclamation out of the Court of Ex-

Exchequer, at the ſuit of the ſaid Prieſt for Tythes, Wool, Lamb, White Book, Preſciption-Money, only for the Tenement, late his ſaid Father's, not being Tythe in kind of Corn nor Hay, he hath been priſoner Two Years, and yet remains.

John Striket of *Branthwhait*, *William Scot* of *Greenrigg* and *Iſabel Peacock* of *Whelpoe* Widow, having Six Fatherleſs Chridren, all Priſoners by Attachments out of the Exchequer for Non-payment of Tythes of Wool, Lamb, White-book and Preſcription; for none of them are liable to pay Tythe-Corn or Hay; and were committed to Goal the 23d of the 9th Moneth, 1676. and yet remain.

Thomas Bewly the younger Son of *Thomas Bewly* aforeſaid, (*Alice Nicholſon* of *Woodhall*, having Six Fatherleſs Children her Husband being kept in Priſon by the ſaid Prieſt for Non-payment of Tythe till he Dyed in Goal) by an Attachment out of the Exchequer, for not putting their Anſwer in upon Oath, being ſued for Non-payment of Tythes of Wool, Lamb, White Book and Preſcription, the ſaid Prieſt taking the Tythe Corn upon their Ground yearly, were committed to Goal the 20th of the 11th Moneth, 1676. and yet remain.

Grace Stalker of *Whalpey* in *Caldbeck* by an Attachment out of Chancery, at the ſuit of *John Munkhouſe* of the ſame Town and Pariſh, was apprehended the 30th of the 3d moneth, 1676. for not putting in her Anſwer in the ſaid Court upon Oath, was committed to Goal the day and year above-ſaid and yet remains.

Sufferers in Cumberland *in the year* 1676. *for Meeting together to worſhip God.*

John Howes of *New-Town* for having a Meeting at his Houſe the 22th Day of the 1ſt Moneth, was fined 20 l. and and had three Steers and two Cows taken from him worth 16 l. diſtrained by *Richard Graham* Conſtable, and others.

Thomas

Thomas Sterdy of *Moorehouſe* fined 9 l. 5 s. for being at the ſaid Meeting, for which they took from him two Oxen and one Cow worth 10 l. 10 s. diſtrained by *Robert Watſon* of *Thurſtanfield*, *Robert Hodgſon* of *Dikesfield* and *John Hutton* of *Brough* Conſtables.

Robert Huntington of *Bowſtedhill* fined 7 l. for the Speaker and 10 s. for himſelf and his VVife being preſent at the ſaid Meeting, for which he had three Heifers taken from him worth 6 l. 10 s.

Chriſtopher Whitlock for being at the ſame Meeting, had taken from him a Cow worth 40 s. by the Conſtables of *Orton* Pariſh

John Iveſon of *Lurriſton* fined for being at the ſame Meeting 7 l. 5 s. and had a Mare and 2 Cows taken from him worth 8 l.

All the aforeſaid Diſtreſſes were by VVarrant from *William Muſgrave* of *Carliſle*, called a Juſtice.

Chriſtopher Taylor of *Hetherſide*, for having a Meeting at his Houſe was fined 20 l. by the ſaid *William Muſgrave*, and the 22th day of the 3d moneth, 1676. *Gilbert Atkinſon* Informer, *Alexander Porter*, *George Story*, *Richard Hethrington* and *VValter Key* took from the ſaid *Chriſtopher* five Beaſts worth 14 l.

John Jackſon of *Angerton* for himſelf and his Brother being at a Meeting fined 2 l. for which the ſame Officers, by the ſame Juſtice's VVarrant, took one Mare from him worth 11. 6 s.

Sufferers for Meeting at Pardſay-Cragg *and at* Cleater *in the the year* 1676. *by VVarrant from* Richard Patrickſon *of* Calder-Abbey, *called a Juſtice,* George Richardſon *of St.* Bees *and others Informers.*

John Steel of *Graythwait* had two Cows taken from him worth ſix pounds (the 31th of the 3d moneth, 1676.) by *Richard Allaſon* of *Bramby* and *John Fletcher* of *Hill* in *Blinbaſhett* Conſtables.

Luke

Luke Steele the ſame day had taken from him for the ſame Cauſe one Kettle worth 12 s.

The 11th day of the 5th moneth, 1676. *Richard Allaſon* Conſtable and *George Richardſon* Informer took from *John Steel* aforeſaid, two more Cows worth 8 l.

James Bragg and the ſaid *Geo. Richardſon* Informer took from *John Nelſon* of *Hightrees* one Cow worth 3 l. 10 s. for meeting.

The ſame day and year, the ſame perſons, for the ſame Cauſe, took from *John Dickenſon* of *Hightrees* one Cow worth 3 l. 10 s.

John Jackſon of *Felldyke* for the ſame Cauſe the ſame time had taken from him two Kettles worth 14 s.

Michael Williamſon of *Gilgaran* had taken from him by *William Peile* and *Joſeph Dixon* Conſtables of *Diſtington* for the ſame Cauſe, one Cow worth 1 l. 10 s.

William Carter of *Croſsfield*, the 13th of the 5th moneth, 1676. for the ſame Cauſe, had taken from him one Mare worth 1 l. 5 s.

Middleſex.

Richard Aſhfield and *Abraham Boneſield*, both of *Staines*, are Priſoners in *Newgate* upon a Writ of *Excommunicato Capiendo* for not paying a Pariſh Rate.

Sufferers in *Hamp-ſhire.*

Nicholas Ede of *Froyle*, ſued by *Richard Farrer* Prieſt of the ſaid place for petty Tythes in the Exchequer, and carryed to *Wincheſter* Goal the 19th day of the 11th moneth, 1674. where he yet remains a Priſoner.

John Biſhop of *Gatcomb* in the Iſle of *Weight*, arreſted at the ſuit of *John Woodnutt* Prieſt, becauſe for Conſcience ſake he could not pay him Tythes, he was committed to the Serjeants Ward in *Newport* the ſeventeenth day of the ſeventh moneth, 1675. where he ſtill remains a Priſoner, kept in very cloſe.

Worceſter-ſhire.

Alice Booker of *Wickamford* impriſoned in the County-Goal by a Writ of *Excommunicato Capiendo*, at the ſuit of *William White* and *Richard Clark* Wardens, for not paying to the Repair of the Steeple-houſe, 1676.

Newcaſtle.

The 26th and 27th of the 11th moneth, 1676. the Wardens and Officers of *Gateſide*, by Warrant from Sr. *Francis Anderſon*, ſo called, Juſtice of the Peace in the County of *Durham*, made Diſtreſs of the Goods of *Richard Stockton*, and took away to the value of Six Pounds Ten Shillings, for

for being at a Meeting in *Gateside* the 27th of the 11th moneth aforesaid.

By Warrant from the same Justice the same Officers took away from *Christopher Bickers* Goods to the value of 13 l. the Warrant was grounded upon the Act made in the year 1670.

Wilt-shire.

William Moxham cited to the Bishop's Court at *Sarum* for not paying small Tythes and Offerings to Priest *Gunn*, who, when he appeared, because he did not put off his Hat, they called him *Coxcomb*, and told him, *He was Bewitched*, and bid him *come again next Court-day*; and when he came again, because for Conscience sake he could not Swear to his Answer to their Libel, they proceeded to Excommunication, and thereupon he is since committed to the County Goal in *Fisherton*, where he still remains a Prisoner, this 15th day of the 12th moneth, 1676.

Oxford-shire.

A Relation of the Unchristian-like Dealing of Justice Gregory *of* Cooksome *with his Poor Neighbour & Tenant* Rich. Holliman *of the same Place, Miller.*

THe said *Richard Holliman* and his Wife being lately convinced of the Truth, *Robert Cripps* the Priest and the Justice their Landlord were greatly in Rage against them, and the Priest meeting with them accidentally in a Neighbour's

Houſe, after ſome words paſt, told them, *He would provide a Task for them*, The poor Woman ſaid, *I pray thee, let it not be* Pharaoh's *Task*. But ſhortly after Ju. *Gregory* ſent his Warrant for *R. Holliman* to come before him, and when he came, the Juſtice was very VVrathful againſt him that he was turned a *Quaker*, and ſaid, *It was the Confounded'ſt Religion of all*, and threatned to turn him out of his Mill, and askt him; *Whether he was at Church laſt Sunday?* He reply'd, *No:* Then the Juſtice ſaid, *He muſt pay* 1 *s.* and ſoon after ſent the Officers with a Warrant to diſtrain, who took away a Pewter-Platter worth 3 s. and ſo proceeded ſeveral times, till he took away Goods to the value of 24 s. a ſmall ſum in value, yet it was more then the poor Man was worth if his Debts were all paid, he having a Wife and Six Children, moſt of them ſmall: And this Cruel Juſtice was not ſatisfied to cauſe this poor Man's Goods to be ſo taken away, but *He Turned him out of the Mill, which he and his Friends had lived in many years*; and this was done near the Winter, a hard time for a Man to be put to ſhift with ſuch a Family, when he knew not what courſe to take to ſubſiſt, nor hardly where to put their Heads for ſhelter, and for no other Cauſe but for being a *Quaker*.

North-Wales.

The late Severe and Illegal Proceedings againſt the People called Quakers, *for Conſcience ſake, in* MERIONIDD-SHIRE.

Cadwallader Thomas, Rowland Ellis, Lewys Robert, Hugh Robert, Evan Rees, Edward Rees, Griffith John, Gainor David, Elizabeth Williams; theſe Nine being taken Priſoners upon an Indictment for not reſorting to their Pariſh Churches, ſo called, were all at the Aſſizes held for the ſaid County in the Town of *Bala*, upon the 11th day of the 6th moneth laſt paſt, brought to the Bar to anſwer their Indictments, *Kemick Eyton* and *Thomas Wallcott* Judges, and upon their refuſal of the Oaths of *Allegiance* and *Supremacy*, then tendred unto them (and as we conceive unjuſtifiable, the Priſoners being but private Perſons, and the Judges declaring no ſpecial Commiſſion, they had, to Warrant and Authorize the ſame) The ſaid Judges delivered in open Court, *That in caſe the Priſoners would refuſe the Oaths the ſecond time, they ſhould be proceeded againſt as Traytors, the Men to be* HANGED *and* QUARTERED, *and the Women to be* BURNED. And upon the 1ſt day of the 7th moneth, their Circuit then returning, they offered to them the Oaths again, and upon their not taking of the ſame in Form, though they ſolemnly acknowledged *Allegiance to the King as ſupream Magiſtrate*, were remanded to cloſe Impriſonment, and were ſtrictly kept as Fellons or Traytors, though without Rule of Court or Commitment upon them for Eleven Weeks time from the Seſſions, and in the laſt great Froſt were kept from the Benefit of a Fire-place or Fire, which the Goaler had granted them, had not one *Maurice Jones*, who is the Prieſt of the Pariſh of *Dolgelle*

Dolgelle (where the County-Priſon is) and generally known to be a very ſottiſh Parſon, threatned to Complain of him to the Judges.

Edward Rees, one of the Priſoners, being above Sixty Years of Age, and as was generally concluded, being not of Strength to bear ſo great a Cold, patiently reſigned up his Life to the Hands of our Righteous Judge, Dying about the height of the Froſt, the 17th day of the 10th moneth, commonly called *December*. One of the Women, being a Wife, and big with Child, was very Weak and Sick lately, and the reſt not likely to be otherwiſe, if the Priſoners be ſo continued, unleſs ſome ſpeedy Courſe be taken for their Relief.

Further Sufferings.

Griffith Robert and *Hugh Rees* were by the vexatious Proſecution of the before-named Prieſt, *Maurice Jones* of *Dolgelle* impriſoned upon a Writ *de Excom. Capiend.* the 30th day of the 3d mon. 1676. where they continue Priſoners; the laſt of them for not paying a *Mortuary*, where he was no further concerned then by his Tenderneſs and Compaſſion, in ſupervising and taking Care of the Orphans of the deceaſed Parent.

Robert Richard, a poor Labourer, of the Pariſh of *Bettus* in the ſaid County, upon the Inſtigation of *Owen Edwards*, the Prieſt of the Place, and Complaint, was committed lately to the County Goal for twelve dayes Abſence from the Steeple-houſe, by *William Salisbury*, one of the Juſtices of the Peace for the ſaid County. The ſame Prieſt vexatiouſly troubled the Maſter of the ſaid Labourer a little while before.

Mountgomery-ſhire.

Mountgomery-ſhire.

An Account of the Sufferings of the People called Quakers, *upon the late Act againſt Conventicles, by the Proſecution of one* David Maurice *of* Pen-y-bont, *who was principal Informer and ſole Juſtice of the Peace therein concerned, his Clerk and Servants the Drivers.*

UPon the 7th day of the 1ſt moneth, in the latter-end of the year 1674. the ſaid *David Maurice* of *Pen-y-bont* in *Denbigh ſhire*, but in the Commiſſion of Peace for this County, came with ſome 14 or 15 Perſons, moſt if not all of them armed, to a Houſe called *Cloddian Cochion*, within the Corporation of *Pool*, which hath proper Juſtices of its own, where a ſmall Number of our Friends were peaceably met with the Doors open and all ſilent, he requiring us to depart, *Thomas Lloyd* requeſted of the before named Juſtice a quarter of an Hours time before our being diſperſed, which he readily granting, and with his Followers ſate amongſt us, the before-mentioned *Thomas Lloyd* uttered a few Words, by Way of defining the true Religion, and what the true Worſhip was, all which the ſaid *David Maurice* approved of, as ſound, and according to the Doctrine of the Church of *England*, yet notwithſtanding he fined him, the ſaid *Thomas Lloyd* in 20l. for preaching, though he was no Magiſtrate of the Corporation, (neither certified he the Conviction at the next Quarter-Seſſions of the Peace, for the Borough, according to the Statute, where the ſuppoſed Offence was committed, but at the Quarter-Seſſions for the County, to whom the Cognizance did not properly belong) and upon this Conviction cauſed to be driven, upon the 16th of the 4th Moneth, 1675. from the ſaid *Thomas Lloyd*

Lloyd 4 Cows and a Mare, all worth about 16 l. by two of his Servants, one of them being his Clark, and a third his Tenant, and no Officer of the Corporation, nor of the Pariſh, nor of that Allotment of the Hundred in place with them; which Drivers were lurking near the Ground ſome two Hours before day, and drive the Cattle before Sun-riſe, and were brought out of the County into his own Demenſe, one of the Cows he returned till required.

The ſame day about the dawning thereof, the ſaid Drivers, by a Warrant from the beforenamed *David Maurice* of *Pen-y-bont* brake rudely through Neighbours Fields, to the Ground of *Thomas Lewys* of *Cloddiau Cochion*, within the ſaid Borough of *Pool*, with no Officer, neither of the Corporation, Pariſh, nor of that Diviſion of the Hundred, and drive from him ſix Cows, two Oxen, and two Heifers; alledging for his Offence, that the before mentioned *Thomas Lewys* ſuffered a Meeting to be at his Houſe, that very Day the before-named *David Maurice* was there himſelf, who not only allowed of the Time, but approved what was ſpoken there; though the Right of the Houſe and the Uſe thereof lay properly in the Mother, who was a Widow; and this Meeting chanced to be in her *Quarenteni*, viz. Her forty Dayes.

And further, the ſaid *David Maurice* took by his Clerk, without a Warrant, two Horſes, one of them being *Charles Lloyd*'s, and the other *Thomas Lewys*'s, though they were at that time out of the County, where the ſuppoſed Offence was committed.

Charles Lloyd of *Dolobran* had Ten young Beaſts taken from him the 18th of the 3d Mon. 1675. by *John Jones* of *Keel* Overſeer of the poor of the Pariſh of *Myvod*, *John Morgans* Petty Conſtable, *William Samuel* Servant to the Church-Warden upon a Warrant from the ſaid *David Maurice*, the only Informer, & buſie Juſtice upon this Mercenary Act, in our Borders, for preaching at *Cloddiau Cochion*, within the Liberties of *Pool*, the 14th day of the 1ſt moneth laſt paſt, though the ſaid *Charles Lloyd* was not at the Place that day, nor of many dayes before or after at a Meeting, as many can teſtifie.

David

David Jones of *Branyarth* for being a Hearer at the two aforesaid Meetings at *Cloddian Cochion*, and though distrained of a Brass-Pan for his proper Fines, had four Cows and two Oxen drive from him by a Warrant from the said *David Maurice* of *Pen-y-bont*, for the pretended Inability of others convicted; the two Oxen and one of the Cows were since returned.

Thomas Hamond of the Parish of *Mountgomery* was committed to the County-Goal about seven Moneths ago, by a Warrant from *Matthew Morgans* and one——*Stedman* two Justices of the Peace for the County of *Mountgomery*, upon the Statute of the 27th *Hen.* 8 c. 20. in a suit of Tythes, in the Bishop's Court of *Hereford*, upon the Prosecution of *Edward Herbert* Baron of *Cherbury* and *Roger Jones* Priest of the Parishes of *Berrine* and *Mountgomery*, which Prisoner notwithstanding several Applications to them and their Agents made, without any Redress, deceased the 28th Day of the last 10th Moneth, called *January*, leaving his Widow and four Daughters destitute of a Tender Husband, and a Carefull Father, by this hard Usage; she was denyed Liberty of once visiting his Family since his Confinement. The sum upon which he was molested, was inconsiderable.

Prisoners in *Shrop-shire*.

Owen Roberts of *Sallop* Baker, and *Ann* his Wife, and *Thomas Oliver* of *Condover* Black-Smith committed to prison the 11th day of the moneth called *January*, 1675. by a Writ of *Excommunicato Capiendo*, for not appearing at the Bishop's Court.

NOte, There have Dyed Prisoners, in several Goals in *England* and *Wales*, since the King came into *England*, who suffered for Good Conscience sake, above Two Hundred Persons of the aforesaid People, by reason of their close Confinement.

And they cryed with a loud Voice, saying, How long, O Lord, Holy and True, dost not thou Judge and Avenge our Blood on them that dwell on the Earth? Revelat. 6. 10.

THE END.

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